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Groans From Goa

Speaking at Poona on June 4, Pandit Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, that is Bharat, said, "The treatment meted out to Indian satyagrahis during the past few weeks aroused a wave of indignation throughout India. Letters and telegrams were showered on me asking me as to why the Government of India was still silent in the matter of liberating Goa. They implored me to send our troops to Goa. They asked me to order police action to liberate Goa. They even sought my permission to solve the Goan issue on their own..... If you are under the impression that the Government will take police action or use force to liberate Goa from Portuguese domination, you are entirely mistaken. I am not going to do any such thing."

After this Pandit Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, that is Bharat, flew away to Russia, saying at the airport, "I am carrying with me the good wishes and blessings of the Indian people."

If we are to believe Nehru, the people of India sent their good wishes and blessings to Russia in spite of hundreds of bleeding and broken heads lying helplessly in Portuguese prisons and hospitals of Goa.

Indians are indeed a great people. Idol worshippers that they have been through ages, they have always spent more wealth and emotion on stone gods than on the sufferings of fellow human beings. In Nehru they have got a living god whose halo dazzled them so much that they completely forgot the following events in their own land:

1. On January 26, 1955, 234 Goan satyagrahis were arrested by the Portuguese at Mapuca and mercilessly beaten. 80-year old Shivram Barve, who led the satyagraha, fell down bleeding defending the Indian flag.

2. Dr. P. Gaitonde, a prominent Goan nationalist, was deported to Lisbon to face trial on a charge of sedition.

3. Miss Celena Moniz and Miss Dina Amonkar were arrested and brutally assaulted.

4. Mr. Shamsunder Ramakant Naik, who led a batch of satyagrahis, was beaten and tortured in jail.

5. On February 15, a batch of nine Indian nationals, including two women, was arrested, beaten up and severely tortured.

6. February 23. Houses of Goan nationalists were searched in the villages of Sivoli and Kankoli and women were dragged out and children beaten.

7. On March 21, Tony DeSouza, former secretary of the National Congress (Goa) was sentenced to 28 years' rigorous imprisonment by a Portuguese military tribunal. Six other satyagrahis got terms varying from 4 years to eight years.

8. On April 6, Mrs. Sudha Joshi, President of the National Congress (Goa) with 75-year old Mrs. Ambika Dandekar and Miss Sindhu Deshpande and 50 others were arrested and caned severely by the Portuguese police.

This lighthouse has no rocks below it. But there is a greater danger at its base to the unwary traveller. And that is this dancing siren. Watch Vyjayantimala in "Sitara", a social tale.

9. Vasudeo Prabhu, a youth who cried freedom slogans, was mercilessly whipped.

10. On April 6, Mrs. Sudha Joshi went on a hunger strike in a Goa jail as a protest against the brutal treatment meted out to her and other satyagrahis.

11. On April 9, Dayanand Keny, Narayan Angle and Ganu, three prominent workers of National Congress (Goa), were very severely beaten and sent to hospital in a serious condition.

12. On April 18, 75-year old Ambika Dandekar said,

"The Portuguese are not human beings. They are merely beasts in human form." The old lady had seen the Portuguese beat Sudha Joshi, Kumudini Pednekar and Shalini Lolimkar.

13. On April 29, Mrs. Asha Phadke, sister of Mrs. Sudha Joshi, was arrested with other nationalist workers and subjected to brutal treatment.

14. On May 4, Pandit Nehru stated in Parliament, "Shrimati Sudha Joshi was abused and ill-treated during interrogation. Three of the male satyagrahis were beaten in public. Ruthless methods verging on barbarity were adopted against the satyagrahis."

15. On May 18, the Portuguese police opened fire on a batch of 54 satyagrahis. 4 satyagrahis received bullet wounds and 13 satyagrahis were dragged to jail.

16. On the same day, P.S.P. leader, N. G. Goray was so severely beaten that he fell down in pain vomiting blood and was removed to hospital.

17. On the same day our revered old nationalist, Senapati Bapat, was very severely beaten, breaking his rib, and a tuft of his hair (shendi) was pulled out from his head, leaving the head bleeding.

18. On May 19, 28 satyagrahis returned to Belgaum, all wounded, with blood-smeared clothes, some with fractures, all with serious injuries.

19. On May 21, Peter Alvares, the Goan leader, told a mammoth gathering in Bombay that so far 2500 persons had been put in Portuguese prisons with 475 serving different sentences of terms more than a year,

20. On May 30, 70 satyagrahis entered Goa under the leadership of Mr. S. P. Limaye. Bhai Vaidya and Mrs. Chowdhary were mercilessly assaulted for clinging to the Indian flag too long. Nineteen injured Indian satyagrahis, two of them critically wounded, were deported.

Full report of the unbearable atrocities perpetrated on local residents is not available but numerous instances of Portuguese soldiers raping Goan girls of poorer classes in the countryside resulting in many illegitimate children have been reported. Fully armed Portuguese soldiers are reported to be making their home in any house they choose after making sure of finding young girls there. After a few months' stay the girls in the house show signs of pregnancy.

Yes, Indians know all this and more and yet Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, carried their good wishes and blessings to Russia. Strange people, these Indians! They cannot see the bleeding wounds and hear the agonizing groans of their own people but they rush to see the ephemeral glory and hear the deafening applause which their little god gets.

Everyone, from Acharya Narendra Deva down to Frank Anthony, tells us that the situation in Goa is very grave. Even Nehru admits that, "ruthless methods verging on barbarity were adopted against the satyagrahis".

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CALCUTTA.

And yet he says, "If you are under the impression that the Government will take police action or use force to liberate Goa from Portuguese domination, you are entirely mistaken. I am not going to do any such thing." And to emphasize this further, he flew away to Russia leaving thousands of Indians groaning in pain and blood in Portuguese prisons.

This man left his nation's history behind and rushed out of the country merely to add a new chapter of glory to his own biography.

And his new henchman, Congress President Dhebar, said, "Who is there more concerned over the problem of Goa than Mr. Nehru? Did he ever wait for anybody's advice before he took police action in Hyderabad?" If Indians have been thinking all along that it was the late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, our ruthlessly patriotic leader, who had taken the police action in Hyderabad in September 1948 by going to Sholapur and himself conducting the operations in association with General Rajendra Singh, let them revise their knowledge of history after what the little puppet of the Congress has said. Sardar Patel is dead and forgotten and no longer requires any loyalties from those who once kissed his frowns and worshipped his feet. Besides Congressmen never cared for events of past history as they were always worried about occasions of future glory.

But why is Nehru, who never waited for "anybody's advice before he took police action in Hyderabad", now refusing to do so in Goa when he himself admits that "the treatment meted out to Indian satyagrahis has aroused a wave of indignation throughout India" and letters and telegrams have been showered on him asking for police action? Isn't Nehru a people's Prime Minister? Isn't he a servant of our people's sovereignty? Then when people demand something with one voice why does Nehru say, "I am not going to do any such thing"? Does that resolve sound democratic in a country we proudly call a sovereign democratic republic?

Nehru himself answered that question in Poona prior to his departure for Russia. Said he, "If India swerved from the path of peace in the matter of the Goan question, India would lose the high respect in which she was held by the world." That indeed would be a tragedy. For, then three Indians—Nehru, Vijayalaxmi and Krishna Menon—would have to blush with shame in the international market, rest of the Indians being too busy in their national bazaars searching for food.

And as a final jibe at those who were patriotic enough to face the batons and bullets of the Portuguese bandits, Nehru said, "But if the satyagrahis when they get beatings look round and ask us to send troops to help them, then they are no satyagrahis at all". With that final kick to the bleeding patriots on the Goan battlefront, our Prime Minister flew away to Russia to gather a harvest of diplomatic smiles and flowers from foreigners and keep our prestige in the international market high.

It is too much to expect this peace pigeon to take police action in Goa. He has no guts for any action. He is only a warrior of words, endless words which turn all our acute problems into chronic curses. He can only be frightened into positive action but then he needs to see a popular corpse like that of Potti Sriramulu before he gets scared. And the corpse, it seems, must be followed by more frightening riots like those that took place in Andhra. For a people sworn to peace and non-violence this is much too bloody and violent a performance to be given every time to rouse our Prime Minister into action. We cannot afford to do this every time and besides it is against our creed to do so. This method must, therefore, be ruled out of our calculations.

But we can do something else. We are 367 million people—more than the Portuguese have ever seen in their long history of piracy and banditry. Only five lakhs of people from this great assemblage of humanity can on any given day push the Portuguese out into the sea quite peacefully and without the least violence. It is the work of a single day. And that day can be August 15, our Independence Day.

What we need is a leader. As Nehru wants to ride triumphantly only through a crowd with flowers, as he did in Pondicherry, he won't come to our rescue. The only other man who can collect a crowd of five lakhs of Indians on a single day is Acharya Vinoba Bhave.

Vinoba has been busy with Bhoodan—taking land from one group of Indians and giving it to another group and calling it Sarvodaya. It is a good social idea but the time has now arrived to try Vinoba's Bhoodan philosophy on the Portuguese, even as little Vamana tried it on Bali in ancient days.

But the Portuguese are uncivilized brutes, being scions of professional bandits and pirates. And brutes have to be frightened into submission just as Bali was. To give Vinoba the frightening size of Vamana, we need at least five lakhs Indian patriots behind him. Then with his frail little hand Vinoba can ask the Portuguese for the Bhoodan of Goa. And let us tell you that it will be given within a minute for the Portuguese cowards would not like to be drowned in the Arabian Sea.

That is an idea over which Vinoba Bhave must think long and deeply. In the post-Gandhian age he is the only brave and honest satyagrahi left and Goa is the one supreme opportunity for him to prove the efficacy of his Bhoodan philosophy.

Let Vinoba therefore give a clarion call to half a million Indians to assemble on the borders of Goa on our Independence Day with only their lunch packets, for the dinner will be served by our Goan compatriots.

We can then send Nehru to Goa for the salute and the flowers and to add one page more in his unique biography.

"Girnar",
Bombay,
10-6-1955.

Baburao Patel.

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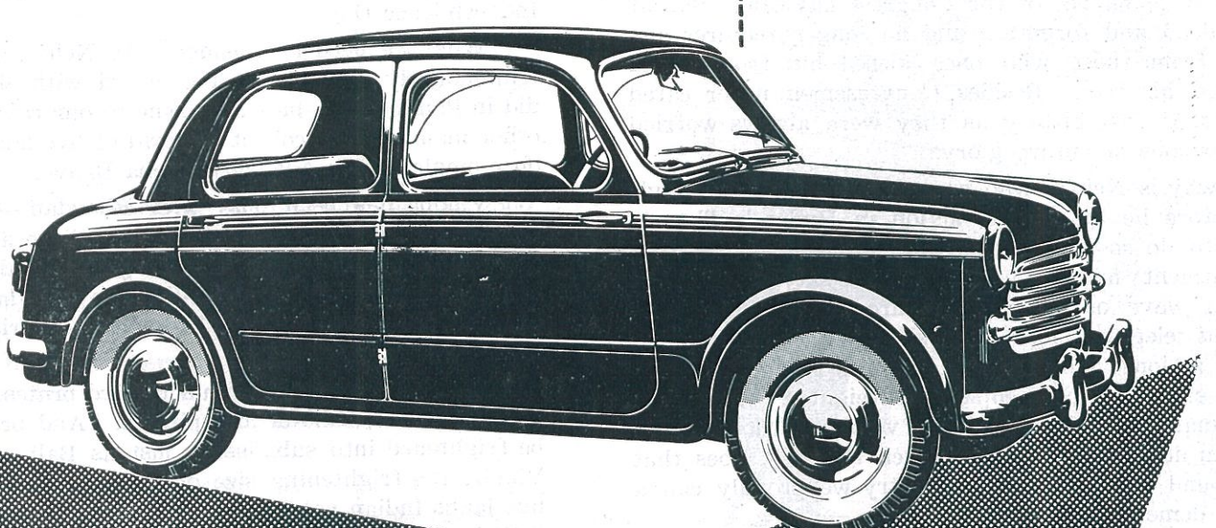

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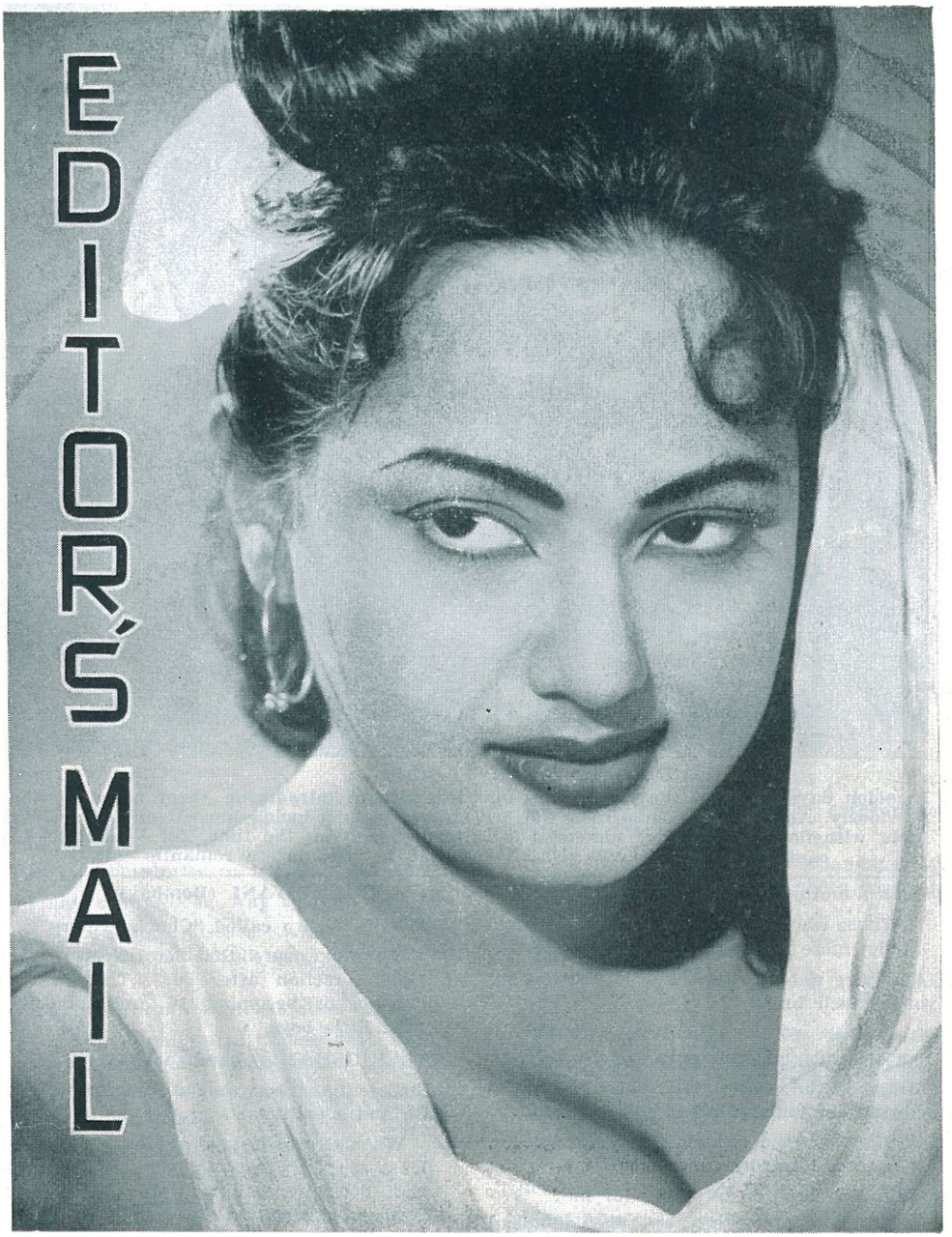


Not satisfied with the design of nature women always make their own additions and in doing so end by being designing women. Watch this new charmer, Ranjana Shukla, with enough to show, in "Patarani", a social story.

MISS SHEELA KADER (Rangoon)

How do you feel after eating Burmese rice?

I became very sick with each grain turning into an emotion and sitting heavily on my heart. Next time send the rice with your brother.

An Anglo-Indian boy's love?

That is a hole in a girl's purse.

How would you have reacted if I had kissed you?

A kiss dies in a crowd. In solitude it has an atomic effect on me. Then I die.

If you were offered a trip to Rangoon, would you accept?

Only on a return ticket.

Babs, why torment me in my dreams?

That is a fine girl! You kick away an opportunity and then blame me.

HIRA LAL DUTTA (Bangalore)

A hermit, after death, goes to heaven. How about the film stars, where do they go?

They enter the bodies of the "noo" ones and teach them old tricks.

K. JOSEPH (Hyderabad)

How long will Chinese and Russians be friends?

As long as they have a common enemy. Once capitalism is liquidated, Communist rivalry will begin and we shall have Communist blocs threatening war against each other.

Who is the best actress in South India?

Pandari Bai seems to be having a rare histrionic talent.

J. B. WILLIAM (Bangalore)

I want to taste lipstick. How can I do it?

Bangalore is a city of lipservice where romantic acrobats exchange kisses while riding on bicycles. Begin with a bicycle, you will soon end with a tricycle.

Why did Dev Anand choose the midnight for his marriage with Kalpana?

The boy is a realist. He knows that midnight is the midday of married life.

Are there women pickpockets?

A woman lives in a man's pocket, be it as a wife or a mistress.

What is your mission in life?

Work and earn and while doing both serve the country a little. I am not a charitable institution like the usual Congressmen to practise wholesale hypocrisy.

K. C. KARUNAKARAN (Cannanore)

Islam allows four wives for a man. Why then do the womenfolk blame the Pakistan Prime Minister, Mohammed Ali, for his second marriage?

They want him to use all the units on the permit. Trouble starts with two but sisterhood with more.

C. MOHAMMEDALI (Madras)

What is birth control?

That is mental reservation in physical consummation.

If Begum Para blushes?

The rouge she uses will have better sales. A blushing rouge has still to be invented.

P. RAJAN (Palamcottah)

What more can we borrow today?

You can borrow hope and optimism from tomorrow.

What is a pregnant widow?

Either her husband's last kick or her neighbour's first kiss.

G. C. AGARWAL (Ajmer)

Why does the Maulana wear dark glasses?

Nehru's halo dazzles him. That man is used to counting his days by the moon.

DALPAT (Suva)

Is there any picture at present wherein Dilip Kumar and Madhubala are working together?

There is one called "Moghul-e-Azam" but if I could tell you when it would be ready I would be hailed as the greatest astrologer on earth.

S. RISHI (Washington, D.C.)

Define luck?

Luck is a bonus on hard work.

ANITA MUKHERJEE (Calcutta)

Did the Film Seminar do any good to our film industry?

Film people don't even remember what was said there. And who cares to remember a woman's birthday gossip however charming the woman?

MISS SAROJ (Khargone)

If kissing is banned?

Family planning will be easier. It is the kiss that leads to a kid.

If your date of birth would have been three days earlier?

There would have been no difference between you and me.

Marriage is death of romance, do you agree?

Romance needs continence in sex to survive. Marriage is a domestic tap.

If you are again made a teenager?

I'll take the first train to Khargone.

D. J. JHALA (Hanoi)

Weather and girls are unpredictable here!

Then the shops must be full of umbrellas and contraceptives.

Why Pandit Nehru kept himself comparatively so silent at Bandung?

A good salesman allows his goods to speak. Chou was sold at a good price.

If you were a graduate?

I would suffer from grammar, a disease that restricts your expression.

How many Chinese have you in India?

Pannikar is one. The rest are shoemakers and dope-sellers.

MADAME HAN (Hanoi)

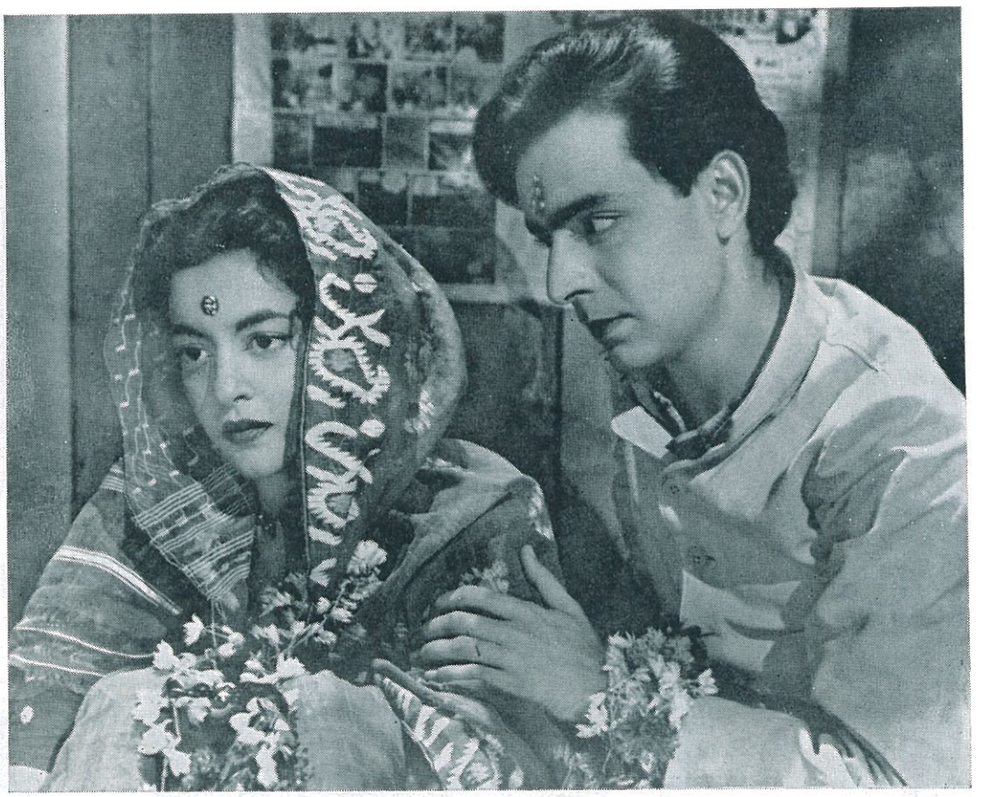
I know Indian women are jealous. And you have two wives?

All women are jealous. But they quarrel only over a worm. When a man is worth keeping women don't mind even a small share.

B. SUBBA RAO (Bombay)

Which is the greatest love story in the world?

A dog's love for its master. It is selfless.



In olden days they got the young ones married without introducing them to each other previously. And it does embarrass the bridegroom in introducing himself on the wedding night with flowers reminding him of a delicate approach all the time. Zul Vellani tries a cautious approach with Nalini Jaywant in "Awaaz", a romantic tale.

Can a mother ever be selfish?

Those who go through labour pains often inflict more pain on their labour of love.

Do you allow beautiful women to adopt you as their brother?

A man with a beautiful wife cannot escape this misfortune.

What is the difference between a married bed and an adulterous bed?

The first one is haunted by the grocer, the second one by conscience.

Will Sai Baba do anything for me?

No. Don't waste your time on dead saints.

L. N. JETHWANI (Bombay)

How would you have solved the problem of Kashmir had you been Nehru?

I would have given Kashmir as a dowry to Aliya Mohammed Ali on her wedding day.

P. D. PANJWANI (Bombay)

Dilip's next, please?

Gemini's "Insaniyat", a picture designed to appeal to millions.

ASHA (Chandigarh)

What do you think of women who smoke?

When a woman smokes, she looks like a vulgar lesbian. A cigarette has a female sex and looks pretty only on male lips.

M. H. CHANDWANI (Bombay)

Why is Nehru called "Chacha Nehru"?

To make sure that he travels in the right direction after 60. That man is capable of becoming 16 and competing with little boys.

BAL KRISHAN (Chandigarh)

Differentiate between a prostitute's promise and a politician's promise?

When a prostitute promises, you can at least see the prospects but when a politician does his hollow words don't even frame a dream.

Are Butani and Bhavnani birds of the same feather?

They are birds of the same jungle. Their feathers are different.

In which position were you happier—as an unknown lad of 20 or as a well-known man of 40?

At 40, I had at least two meals a day. Meals lend moods to the face.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

Jayaprakash Narayan says, "Congress can't deliver the goods." Can he?

He has no goods to deliver.

What is Dr. Amul Desai waiting for?

1957. He wants to see whether Morarji concedes him a walk-over in Bulsar or comes to grips with him again.

What is Jayashree doing?

She is put on the shelf without even a telephone by her side. Poor kid!

Are all houses equipped with Bengal Potteries?

"Girnar" is.

Why don't you become a saint?

My profession as a sinner is still paying.

How do ladies behave in Paris?

Like women and they make Paris attractive.

When a goat sees a Hindu?

He throws his chin up and walks away. But when he sees a Muslim, he stops and salutes.

Can Sabu speak English well?

Sabu doesn't know English. He speaks bad American.

MRS. V. RAMANATHAN (Mannargudi)

Red Karanjia of "Blitz" pushes himself with his hands folded back in all the newsphotographs. Why?

Russi is polite. He likes to hide and not hurt you.

Does Morarjibhai use sun-cooker?

No, he uses his son-cooker.

What do they do in the National Physical Laboratory in Poona?

They sing hymns and national anthems. After Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar's death, they are thinking of handing over these laboratories to the Catholic priests.

I hate Hollywood. Any remedy, Babs?

That is not a disease. All decent women hate Hollywood. Hollywood breaks their homes.

What is Begum Para's brother doing?

International work! These days he has a pretty French woman on his hands.

Do you really admire my loving husband, T. A. Ramanathan?

Isn't it enough that you love him? Let us not load the little Madrasi more.

N. G. ATHAWALAY (Poona)

What should I do if my wife wants to take to acting?

Divorce by consent is the latest escape.

What is the definition of marriage in film circles?

A film marriage is a period of cheating between two flirtations.

SHRI RAM (Lucknow)

Einstein's brain taken for study. What about yours?

Einstein's brain gave killers. Mine gives only ticklers. In a world suffering from peace, killers are more important.

B. T. HARISINGANEY (Thana)

What sort of a husband does Madhubala desire?

She wants a mouse who will roar like a lion outside.

If you stand under a Gandhi cap?

You will lose your editor if it falls on my head.

MISS V. BALKRISHNA (Bombay)

Many river projects, sir?

Tainted money needs to be washed.

"filmindia" in Hindi! When?

After I return from my first trip to the moon.

Z. AJMERI (Bombay)

Who is Tolaram Jalan?

Celluloid Caesar of the day.

D. S. FERNANDIS (Poona)

Are men reborn?

Much against their will. Women bring them back in their wombs.

J. PILLAI (Kuwait)

I like the eyes of Vyjayantimala, the nose of Bina Rai, the mouth of Madhubala, the smile of Shyama, the eyebrows of Meena Kumari, the legs of Nalini Jaywant and the white sari of Nargis. How about you Babs?

I don't deal in spare parts. I like a completely assembled machine.

J. C. ROY BARMON (Purulia)

Does film also fall into the category of cottage industry?

Not till film folks reach Khandala. At Khandala it becomes a sheer cottage industry.

F. MAHMOOD (Madras)

I am in love with a married girl. What should I do?

Forget her. Good hunters don't poach.

If you were to be marooned on a lonely, deserted island with a woman, so far advanced in years as to stand in the shoes of your grandmother, what would you do?

I would call her grandmother and end her fears.

What is it that provokes a man most?

A woman's tongue. It makes him a murderer.

Mr. Patel, could you tell me the name of the safest brothel in Bombay?

For brothels, please write to B. K. Karanjia, c|o Blitz, Fort, Bombay.

OM PRAKASH (Mombasa)

Who is this newcomer Zul Vellani? Is he Zulfikar Vellani of Mombasa?

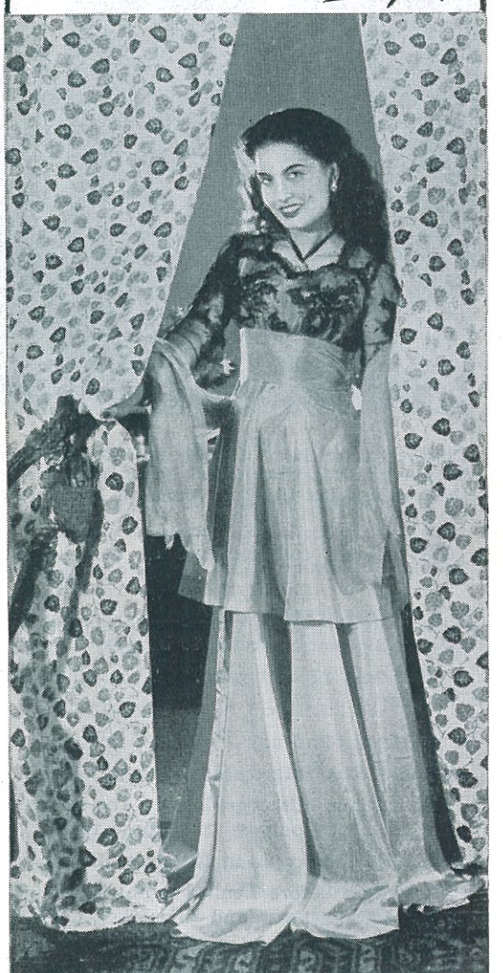
That is right! He is now selling silk to film girls.

J. P. DASS (New Delhi)

Any service for me?

Count the Communists in Delhi and let me know their number or stop writing this

"Nothing to beat them in Colour & Quality!"
Says
Venus Bannerjee



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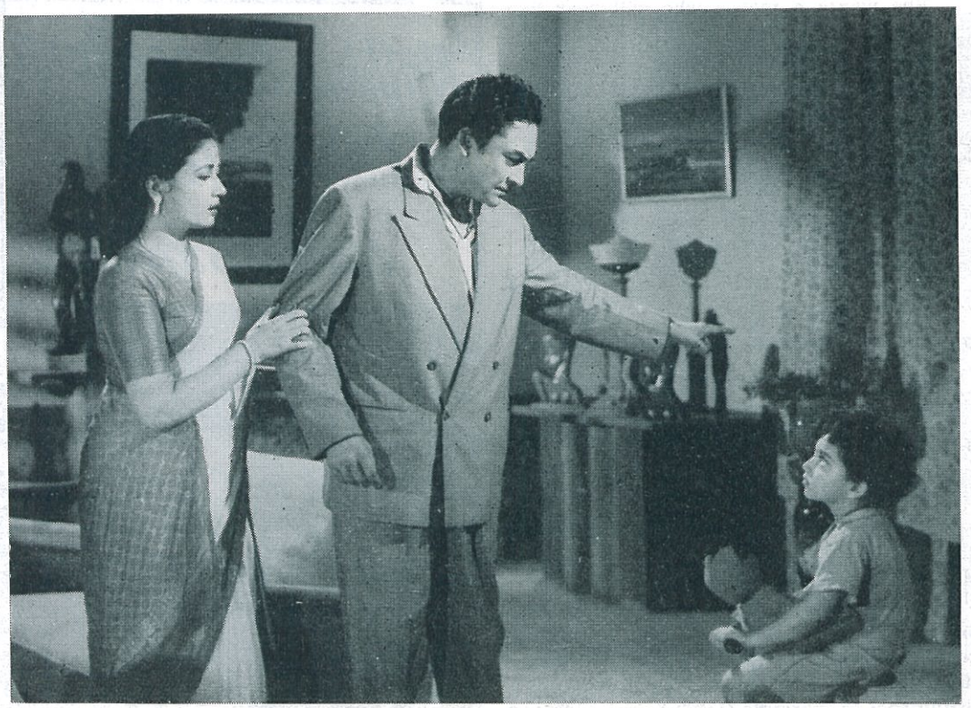


Children often have a habit of catching Papa kissing Mama. That embarrasses a well-behaved father who cannot wait till he reaches the bedroom. Ashok Kumar is ordering the boy out but the boy wants to know why? Meena Kumari saves the situation in "Bandish", a social story.

conventional commonplace at the end of a letter.

V. B. S. CHAUHAN (Mainpuri)

Venus Bannerjee seems to be over 35?

She was 27 last year. This year she claims to be 25.

K. RAMAN (Madras)

What is the tragedy of Bandung?

Americans discovered that the Asians had a mouth only with Chinese teeth.

What do the people in Russia whisper?

A prayer before Lenin's tomb! The dead man doesn't hear and "Pravda" doesn't care.

"Crowd hears Dhebar in rain." Any comment?

They expected him to be washed out.

B. S. CHOWDHARY (Jodhpur)

What is the significance of national anthem?

A national anthem supplies patriotism in place of potatoes to kill the pangs of hunger.

V. SEEVARATNAM (Badulla)

Is Sumitra Devi short-sighted?

Heavens, no! She can see a producer of a picture four pictures in advance.

Your cartoonist eloped? Or kidnapped?

Committed suicide.

Is it true that those who drink get piles?

Yes, and many more serious illnesses. But that is no excuse for Prohibition. Truth is a poison but no one has banned it yet.

When is Nargis getting married?

Here are the possibilities. The man she loves must become a Muslim. The wife of the man she loves must either die or divorce him. And the last one: Pakistan must invade India and turn it into a Muslim country. Now keep guessing.

A. C. M. KRISHNA (Adoni)

I wish that Bellary becomes Andhra. Do you also wish so?

I don't care if it becomes Timbuctoo as long as it remains in India.

MRS. E. ALVARES (Bombay)

I am the mother of 20 children. Should I now have more or practise family planning?

You should now apply for Padma Vibhushan. You have done enough harm.

MISS RATNA (Nagpur)

What are the new things made in India after freedom?

Tapase, Chavan, Hiray, Nimbalkar, Pataskar and 200 more in different provinces. We never heard of these articles before.

V. P. PALMER (Mangalore)

Mr. Patel, how are you getting on?

I am in distress. Some beautiful Burmese girls promised to send me a lakh of rupees but they ended by sending me only "jholis". Now where am I to go and beg at this age?

K. HAQUE (Eklehra)

U. N. Dhebar! Strange-looking Congressman!

Why strange-looking? He has the world's most popular face—that of Charlie Chaplin.

MRS. S. PREM (Durban)

When will the price of "filmindia" come down?

Not in this birth.

N. KALAN (Salisbury)

Nowadays ladies wear transparent clothes. Why?

They are becoming honest.

D. OBRAI (Ajmer)

Define sex appeal?

That is a silent lullaby for a Tarzan.

R. C. BHASIN (Jullundur)

Is Morarji a saint?

No! He is a reformed sinner, which means a man who misses the present and lives in the past. A hangover of sin always lends more glamour to synthetic virtue.

What makes you look so worried?

My character which does not permit me to sleep over my debts.

Do you know any corrupt journalist in India?

It is easier to count the honest ones.

Soviet Ambassador Menshikov says there is nothing so big in Russia as Bombay's Aarey Milk Colony?

Did Menshikov say who discovered the cow first?

Do you love money?

I worship it because there is divinity in it.

I am prepared to give my life for the sake of my beloved motherland?

Don't be a fool. Live and work hard for your country. The dead serve none.

What is the difference between Sheikh Abdullah and Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed?

The first case has been decided. The second one is sub judice.

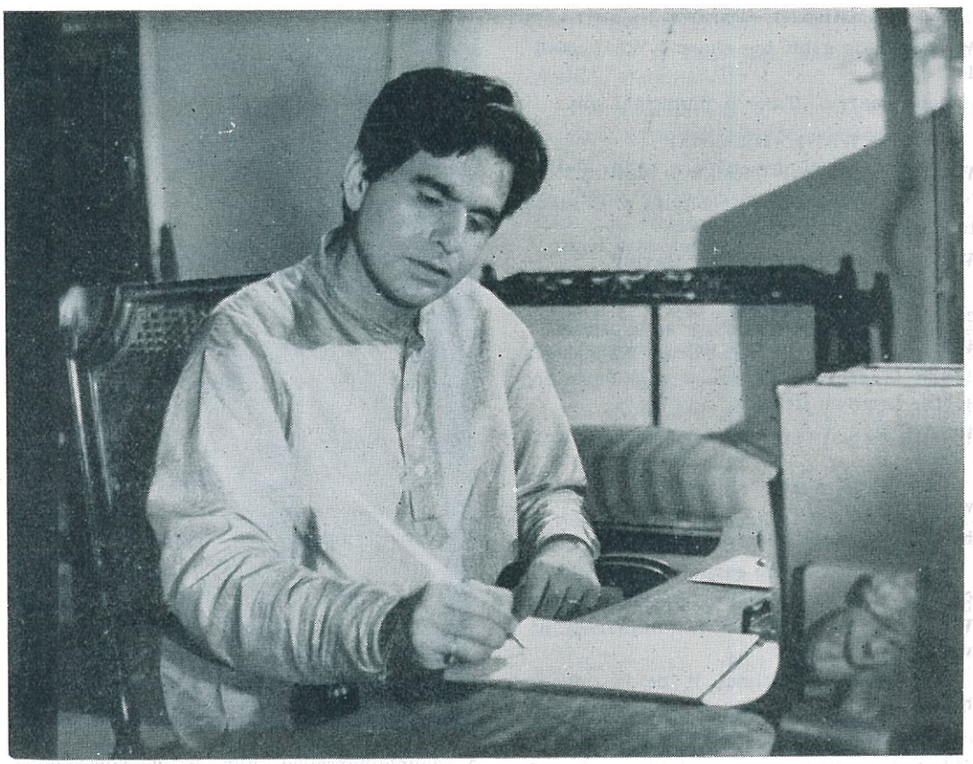
Who is the most open-hearted person in Pakistan at present?

General Iskandar Mirza! He is blunt and honest.

S. VITTAL RAO (Madras)

How to behave aristocratic?

Have you tried the uses of a noble mind rich in knowledge and humble in thought?



Dilip Kumar, India's most popular star, will soon give us a new celluloid interpretation of the great role of Devdas in a picture of that name produced and directed by Bimal Roy.

MISS C. CHANDRAMANI (Bombay)

What is understood by romance?

Romance is the vapour that comes out of a heart in a melting-pot.

E. V. CHHAPWALEY (Uran)

Who knows a woman best, her husband or her employer?

Husband knows the woman, the employer knows the lady.

I. V. MAHBUBANI (Bombay)

Can anything make you forget work?

The first prize in the Irish Sweepstakes.

Pandit Nehru says that the second Five-Year Plan would be a people's plan. Then for whom was the first plan meant?

That was for the Congressmen.

Your son, Shashi, is still after Anglo-Indian girls?

He only proves the Mendelian law of dominant and recessive factors in heredity.

Devika Rani still remembers Himansu Rai?

And very touchingly! Dead men always get a better deal.

Are modern girls more cunning than boys?

Girls have always been more cunning than boys. Modern boys, however, have become greater fools.

If eyes cease shedding tears?

The world will lose the only evidence of the human heart.

Are Punjabis good paymasters?

Paying bills in time is an individual virtue, not a provincial one.

Are you friendly to your neighbours?

You can't be friendly to invisible neighbours. I see only their dogs, ducks and dames.

Are you not sick of the present rulers of Bombay?

No, because I know worse standing in the queue.

I?

Yes, you! Stop pseudo-intellectualism and start learning. Knowledge is not a notion but an acquisition.

MISS M. BHANDARE (Bombay)

Does one require luck to get a good husband?

With the new divorce law in force, a good husband is no longer a symbol of good luck. A woman can now reach good luck by the trial and error method.

Mohammed Ali married his social secretary. How do you account for this?

Adultery often ends in marriage. Man cannot continue to be a criminal too long.

Does Maulana Azad ever scratch his head?

No, when Maulana gets the itch, he scratches Humayun Kabir's head.

G. N. PAI (Bombay)

My fiancee, who is at Goa, applies tilak on my photo every morning.

Women have very endearing hobbies before marriage.

Do you know the secrets of love making?

No, I know only the results of it.

S. J. RELE (Bombay)

What if Frank Moraes starts winking?

His liver will have to be examined. That is a bad sign for a Prohibition permit-holder.

With what motive does a prostitute visit a temple?

She prays for the souls of her visitors.

Pandit Nehru is good at figures?

Not at all. Those around him don't have even primary curves.

Is Bombay full of worms?

Have you any doubts about that after years of Prohibition?

Who is Nitin Bose?

That is Bengal's biggest motion picture masquerade with folded hands.

Where do virgins reside?

In the imagination of desire.

Who sings lullaby to Mr. Butani?

"White Horse".

Suppose you tell Raj Kapoor he is handsome?

Raj is intelligent enough to know that I am lying.

Everybody in Bombay avoids Morarji?

Yes, he smells of Prohibition.

If I flatter Nehru?

You won't have to buy butter for your bread.

If India produces a Buddha?

The Chinese kidnapped the last one. We can't risk another. Besides the clay from which a Buddha is made takes thousands of years to collect.

Did any of our Muslim actresses fast during Ramzan?

With the film industry in its present distress the Ramzan fast has no particular significance left. The film folks now want a banqueting month for religious purposes.

MANOHAR M. (Simla)

Why do some people love their pet animals so much?

The dumb deserve all the love in the world. Doesn't Nehru love his people?

Unwed mothers! Is it not contradictory?

Oh, no! With divorce by mutual consent now in fashion it is complementary. I like the new law. It shifts the emphasis of the word 'bastard' from the child to the parents.

Chinese marry quietly they say?

Marriage must be a major crime in a country with 600 million people.

What is the life of a bachelor after fifty?

Fifty is a dangerous age for a bachelor. He is likely to be attacked both by the maidens and the widows—not to mention the divorcees.

When does a man begin to harm himself?

When his ears fall in love with his voice.

What is sex appeal?

Pleasure of one night and responsibility thereafter.

Faith in God is not enough. Then what else is required?

Faith in yourself as His chosen one.

K. A. K. AYYANGAR (Madras)

What sort of men do Russian ladies like?

They like tractors—not mere ploughs.

Where do ladies come in politics?

Women in politics can't be called ladies. Politics is a heat from which women should keep away.

What is this socialistic pattern of society?

Hawking 'khadi' in American motorcars.

Marina is called the beauty spot of Madras. Which is the beauty spot of Bombay?

Worli Sea Face! This spot has beauty plus perfume and Morarji's long nose seems to love the perfume.

What is a child in Russia?

A farm product.

Experts come from America, Russia, etc. Are there not any experts in India?

Didn't we send our sheep-counter Sukumar Sen to Egypt?

A vain man's motto is, "Win gold and wear it"; a generous man's "Win gold and share it"; a miser's, "Win gold and hoard it"; a profligate's, "Win gold and spend it"; a broker's, "Win gold and lend it"; a gambler's, "Win gold and lose it"; a wise man's, "Win gold and use it". What is a Congressman's motto?

Win gold and deny it.

MISS G. SAMBRANI (Dharwar)

My tongue is a bit too sharp. What shall I do?

Don't marry. Take a municipal job.

A. D. BHARWANI (Djakarta)

What is your work—design or destiny?

It is a design which collides with destiny and gets disfigured.

What is fascinating about David?

The history of his race. There is the corpse of Goliath in it.

What is Fatima Jinnah doing these days?

She is scratching the wrong back to soothe her own itch.

What is S. S. Vasan's best picture produced so far?

"Insaniyat" will be his best one. It is worth waiting for.

Why do you laugh least?

I sell my laughs to earn a living. What the face therefore loses the stomach gets.

What do you admire in the Maharaja of Gwalior?

His money. Without it he is only a biped.

M. JANARDHAN (Secunderabad)

What does loving your neighbour mean?

It is a waste of time if there are only ducks and drongos in the neighbourhood.

What are the right methods to remove untouchability from India?

One way is to invite a thousand untouchables to the Rashtrapati Bhawan once every month for a community dinner with the kissables.

R. A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

College girls are getting squint-eyed these days. Why?

The boys chase them at wrong angles.

H. R. SINGH (Bombay)

Whom will Dilip Kumar marry?

Not a girl from films! The boy has a wholesome respect for marriage.

K. L. MEHTA (New Delhi)

Do you hope to leave any footprints behind?

No, my creditors won't let me rest in the other world.

I. D. VASHISHT (New Delhi)

The central theme of Bhagavad Gita?

Peace through strength!

PROMILA ROY (Meerut)

What are the main principles of Panchashila?

Nehru, Vijaylakshmi Pandit, Indira Gandhi, Krishna Menon and Feroze Gandhi—all co-existing.

G. PREM (Raipur)

Is it true that film actress Ameeta is only 13 years old?

A double-barrelled gun is a superfluous weapon to a woman with two lively eyes. She can always aim and kill better with her natural weapon. But then Shyama makes a good trooper in "Haseena", an old triangle of love in a new setting.

Since Naushad met her she dropped three years and is now only 10.

What do you think of the character of American people?

Americans have fears, not character. Character needs courage.

C. H. JAIRAJ (Kazipet)

Why is summer chosen as the marriage season?

This is a country of farmers and farmers are free for social events in summer.

Can money be more powerful than politics?

Money is the most powerful deity next to God.

MRS. S. VASUDEV (Bombay)

Define a shroud?

Shall we call it a shawl of death?

Do you like dating?

The journey from the fourth letter of the alphabet to the thirteenth is too tedious at my age. At 51 a man hasn't so much patience.

What do you admire in Mr. Sood?

His divine indifference to the happenings around him.

V. B. S. CHAUHAN (Mainpuri)

Lalita, Padmini and Ragini, all at "Girnar". Innocent cows in a lion's den. God save them!

God did save them with a miracle. The cows ate the lion.

M. R. VASWANI (Bombay)

Is there no Sindhi actor?

We have Hari Shivdasani—a good actor with a Sindhi accent.

R. C. JAIN (Hyderabad)

What do you think of Deshmukh's nose?

Deshmukh's nose is an overdraft on his face.

M. P. BHANOT (Jullundur)

Do you feel that India should remain in the Commonwealth?

We don't have to pay membership fees.

S. R. IRANI (Bombay)

The April issue of your "filmindia" was published very late, causing unbearable anxiety. Any reason?

The socialistic pattern of society has affected the press workers. They are more social now than beneficial.

PANDU (Secunderabad)

What are churches?

Prisons of Christian souls.

Will you work only for the bribe of success?

Yes! It is a bribe dipped in the salt of sweat.

K. B. LALL (Indore)

If Morarji becomes a sanyasi?

He will give a bad name to Bulsar. That town has always been famous for its manly sinners.

If Frank Moraes had wings?

He would fly to Goa for dinner and return to Bombay for breakfast.

What does Premier Mohammed Ali's marriage to his social secretary Miss Aliya Saadi indicate?

A strictly religious man.

When do butchers become kind?

They peel the skin without hurting the flesh.

What happens when Nehru blesses?

Ministers, governors and ambassadors are born.

K. D. HINGORANI (Bombay)

Do you never flirt with film girls?

I do but I remain a mile away from the skirt.

What does Jayshree see in her dreams?

She sees Sandhya dancing with Shantaram in Technicolor.

How will you tell a Yankee from a Tommy?

A Tommy will wait for his turn in a public lavatory. A Yankee will wet the wall.

C. GHOSH (Calcutta)

What is it that you admire in Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed?

His promptness in waiting round the corner when we needed someone.

How many moons are there?

Two: the moon in the sky and the one on the Islamic flag. One tempts, the other provokes.

B. V. M. LAKSHMAIAH (Bangalore)

"Millions of Hindu wives live in perfect peace and are queens in their own homes", said the Mahatma. Do you believe in this?

I know two who live like absolute tyrants in "Girnar".

S. V. RAMANAYYA (Vishakhapatnam)

What is your opinion of Babu Purshottamdas Tandon's politics?

He keeps baying at the moon.

What was Dr. Keskar before Independence?

He was an Indian culture scout.

K. V. GOPAL (Secunderabad)

Did your words break any bones?

Hearts have no bones.

What is an open letter?

An open letter is a helpless admission of secret intentions.

D. N. BHARWANI (Bombay)

Does Morarji flirt with death?

No! He flirts with other people's lives.

N. S. PANESAR (Lucknow)

If sex is taxed?

Tax-evasion will lend an extra edge to romance.

R. N. GURSAHANI (Bombay)

What is the difference between a divorce and a legal separation?

In separation you lose both: old practice and new prospects. Divorce gives you a right to go hunting.

G. A. HAMID (Kurnool)

"Every man at forty becomes a scoundrel", said George Bernard Shaw. Do you agree?

I do. Bernard Shaw did earn most of his reputation after forty.

G. RAMA RAO (Kothagudium)

Who is a genuine politician?

A man who will smile on your face and spit on your shadow.

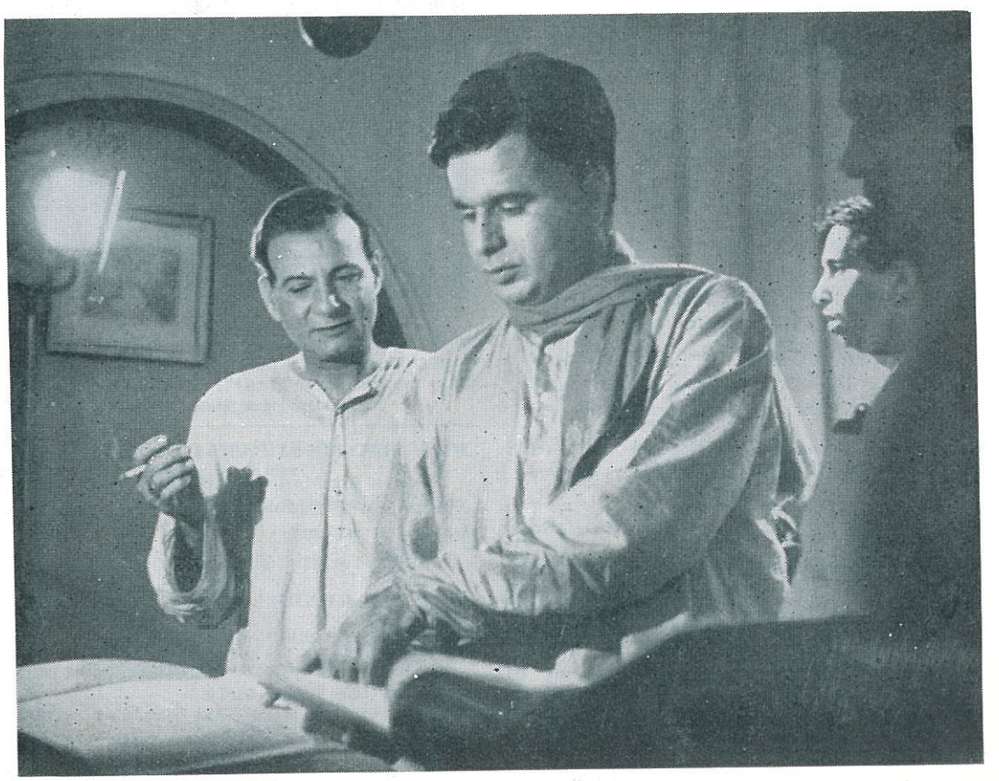
Define an American female?

The American woman is a bazooka mounted on two legs of mutton.

MRS. PRAKASH (New Delhi)

Where does a minister keep his money?

In his son's pocket.



A great story needs great artistes. And when great artistes meet they work with a jealous sincerity which makes the picture a living document. Here are Motilal and Dilip Kumar, together after a long time, in "Devdas", an unforgettable emotional experience.

There is one thing great about youth. It has nothing left behind. Everything is yet to come and everything looks bright and rosy. Watch little Chand Usmani catching rosy dreams in "Amanat", a love tale.

H. B. PRABHU (Bombay)

Has Sucheta married Acharya Kripalani through love?

It must be sheer love on her part to marry that sour-tongued man.

When should a man stop bluffing his wife?

Never! Bluffing is the only vestige of romance left in married life. It will be cruel to deprive a woman of it.

What is your opinion of the Praja Socialists?

They are the clowns in the Congress circus. Without them the circus will present only wild animal items.

Did you ever study philosophy?

I walked through life with eyes and ears open.

How is it that the Jews are so wise?

Persecution makes people silent and silence makes them thoughtful.

G. A. RAO (Kothagudium)

Can morality be inherited?

Like character morality has to be inherited. It can neither be acquired nor imposed. And those who mimic morality look more like monkeys than men.

Do you still believe in the legend of Morarji's incorruptibility?

All legends have a good moral. You can forget the actor and remember the play.

S. R. SINGH (Kanpur)

Do you know that Prithviraj Kapoor has a very high opinion of you?

You are not a good mind-reader.

Are you against our asking aid from America?

I am also in favour of taking aid from Russia. That is the main benefit of neutrality. You can beg with both hands, keeping your head in the centre.

M. L. DASWANI (Hong Kong)

What do you think of the husband who kisses his bride on the wedding day and never before or after that?

He believes in the care of his teeth.

M. J. MURPHY (Madras)

If we must have pavement bookstands in India, why must the accent be on sex?

When millions of bed-products are thrown on the pavements, what is wrong with a few sex magazines?

That is in right royal Hollywoodian criminal style. Dev Anand plays a vigorous shooting role in "Pocket Maar", a sensational tale, and survives the cigarette.

MRS. SUKUMARI SAHAI (Dehra Dun)

Madras for Madrasis, Bengal for Bengalis, Punjab for Punjabis and so on ad nauseam. India for whom?

India for the Chinese.

G. C. AMARENDRA NAIDU (Bellary)

Why was woman given a tongue?

To stir the blood of man. She thus makes life more tasty.

U. JAYASWAL (Malacca)

Will you help me to decide whether I should take up law or medicine?

Medicine! We need healers. We have enough politicians.

MISS REKHA (Mandalay)

Though my lover is poor, I am blindly in love with him because he resembles you.

That is a good beginning. Now ask him to work hard and build a little home for you.

I am losing faith in Hindu mythology. Please do something so that I may not lose my faith in a great religion?

Myths don't constitute a religion, truths do. Read the Upanishads.

SHEILA VARMA (Jabalpur)

What will be the fate of Miss Fatima Jinnah?

She will get a national mourning.

Has Cartoonist Laxman of "Filmfare" met any stars?

He says he has not met any and that is why he draws their bottoms.

When a rich bachelor falls in love with an equally rich married woman, whose bank account is more secure?

One who poaches pays for the crime.

V. M. RADHAKRISHNAN (Bombay)

Were you an optimist in your struggling days?

Optimism is a future surplus on the minimum. I was busy eking out the minimum for the day.

You look much younger than your age?

I had no youth. I am therefore being compensated.

Do you consider Sindhis to be more brainy?

Most women are hundred-yard beauties. They disillusion you once you go near them. Their defects jump into the eye. Jabeen should not flirt with the camera too closely if she wants to make a good impression in "Bara Dari", her new romantic assignment.

The Arab horse has to bear his share of Arab romance. It is a double share in this case and the noble animal wonders on whose back it could carry its mare? But what do human beings care for the feelings of animals, however noble they be? An Arab in love is perhaps a worse animal. Anyway, let us meet Pradeep Kumar and Chitra in "Hoor-e-Arab", a tale of Araby.

No, but they have more enterprise. They create a thirst first and then desperately dig a well.

Who is the busiest man in the world?

A man who is working and paying his debts.

I have read about 'Seventh Heaven' in books. Where is it actually please?

In your upper storey. It is also found in a glass of "bhang".

M. G. BHAVE (Poona)

What are the benefits of wearing khadi?

You soon develop a thick skin and then nothing hurts.

MRS. K. KAMALA (Secunderabad)

Do people generally make the most of their abilities?

No, they waste too much time assessing others.

K. V. DESAI (Palghar)

Has Dr. Ambedkar embraced Buddhism?

Not yet! He is still threatening himself.

P. C. SINHA (Ajmer)

What is the most legal method to kill a person?

Get him married. He will die every day.

What do you say about the campaign for banning cow slaughter?

I think all diseased cows including those on two feet must be slaughtered.

SHIV KUMAR (Hyderabad)

We have got a fellow who gets drunk by 8.30 p.m.?

An amateur. Send him to Bombay for his graduation.

G. A. MODAK (Bangalore)

Is not your "filmindia" banned in Portuguese territory?

Not yet! It is banned in Kashmir, our Indian territory. That is Bakshi's homage to Nehru's democracy.

When does a girl become wise?

She sees light in darkness.

H. I. RANDERI (Bombay)

Why is your son usually seen loitering in the Catholic Colony of Khar?

Must be wanting to practise the Ten Commandments.

K. MANOHAR (Bombay)

I want to call you 'Mama'...Do you agree?

No! We have Morarji 'Mama' already. One is enough for the city.

Why don't you take part in any of the public activities such as the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference?

I am a small editor. If I sit with big ones like J. C. Jain and Devdas Gandhi I'll look smaller.

R. N. SHIVPURI (Saharanpur)

Nehru says, "Where freedom is menaced or justice threatened, or where aggression takes place, we cannot be and shall not be neutral."

And what does he say about Goa?

Does your wife really think you to be the most perfect husband?

Women never love perfect husbands. My wife still gets spasms of love for me.

How can the Government make income tax evasion impossible?

By respecting the tax-payer and treating him as a senior partner in the State. At present the tax-payer is treated as a criminal.

J. G. SAMBRANI (Bombay)

My height is 5' 11". Has it any value?

Not much because your mind contains a lot of dirt. Stature needs a diet of good thoughts.

K. NAIR (Suva)

Say something interesting about Raj Kapoor?

He is suspected of producing a picture called "Shri 420".

J. M. MULIYIL (Kasaragod)

What will happen to Morarji if he sees Chandulal Shah embracing Miss Gohar on a public road?

Morarji will declare the day as Idd Day and give himself an extra holiday.

GHAN SHYAM (Kyaukse)

Aga Khan weighs 215 lbs. What is your weight?

211 lbs. Now calculate how much those missing 4 lbs. were worth.

What do you think of the Burmese Premier, U Nu?

He has the humility of the learned.

MRS. SUNANDA BAI (Bombay)

What do you admire in Manilal Gandhi?

His parentage.

Do you belong to the cream of society?

I belong to the milk part of it.

MANOHAR M. (Simla)

What do you think of a couple celebrating their 50th marriage anniversary?

That is a mutual toast at the tail end of a long-drawn battle. They deserve it.

M. G. CHAUDHARY (Bombay)

What do you admire in Pakistan?

Their perseverance in stupidity! It gets one a good bargain sometimes.

Suicide is rare among film stars. Why?

Those who live in luxury die in disease.

The Sheikh, the siren, the horse and the desert—that is all they require for a speedy Arab romance. Shashikala looks angrily at the butler-turbaned Arab in "Hoor-e-Arab", a tale of desert love.

Is death a cure?

Not when a saint dies. Gandhiji is still worrying us.

S. B. GORDE (Ambernath)

What are the true confessions of a man who is at the milestone of fifty?

Sins begin at fifty. Confessions come at sixty.

S. CHAKRAPANI (Bombay)

Sri Prakasa, the Governor of Madras, said recently that every citizen should be trained to use a rifle.

Sri Prakasa is a devoted "filmindia" reader. He repeats what he reads.

You say "Reader's Digest" is a waste of money but your correspondent "Sagitta" asks the hostess to keep "Reader's Digest" for the guest?

That is right. Who likes a guest to stay too long? "Reader's Digest" is very useful that way.

A. K. VASUDEVA (Mercara)

What is marriage to an ugly woman?

A cataract in the eye of her husband.

If a beautiful flower yells?

Someone must hear its prayer and rush to rescue it from a rape. But flowers don't yell, the thorns do.

Please define an Indian Communist leader?

The average Communist in India is a dacoit who capitalises anarchy.

S. J. RELE (Bombay)

Have these star charity matches affected the film industry?

They have debunked the stars and ruined their glamour with the result that the stars have stopped drawing crowds to the box-offices. People don't visit museums to see stones over which you stumble in the streets.

Is K. Asif interested in "satta"?

Only in teaching "satta" to Parsis. Asif has always been a great teacher.

L. D. KOTWANI (Bombay)

My wife snatches away "filmindia" from my hands when she finds me reading it late at night?

That is right. She has a question you must answer first before you read my replies.

N. SUNDARAM (Khargpur)

In our Institute, you were quoted in a debate on India's neutrality. People appreciated the lines but commented that the speaker shouldn't have acknowledged their origin?

That is the fate of an honest man in Congress India.

A. N. NARAYANA RAO (Mysore)

How does Morarji raise his stature?

By standing in the shadow of Nehru.

C. GHOSH (Calcutta)

What is the best part of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed?

He is pliable. The man believes in the profits of politics.

Rs. 300/- EVERY MONTH IN 14 PRIZES

From the Independence Number (August 1955) the following prizes will be awarded every month for questions which are considered interesting or elicit interesting replies in the "Editor's Mail".

1st Prize: Rs. 100|-; 2nd Prize: Rs. 50|-; 3rd Prize: Rs. 30|-; 4th Prize: Rs. 20|- and 10 Consolation Prizes of one copy of "Grey Dust", each worth Rs. 10|-.

A reader can ask as many questions as he likes but those letters which bear the Priority Coupon will be answered first. A reader gets three coupons free per copy and he has therefore the chance to catch the bus thrice every month. Questions should be neatly written, or typed if possible, with some blank space left between two questions. It is in this blank space that the editor writes his replies. Unless the letters are signed they won't be considered.

In awarding prizes, the editor's decision shall be final and absolutely binding and no correspondence will be entertained about the distribution of the prizes.

The names of the prize-winners will be announced in "filmindia" every month and the prize money will be remitted by money order while the copies of "Grey Dust" will be sent by registered post.

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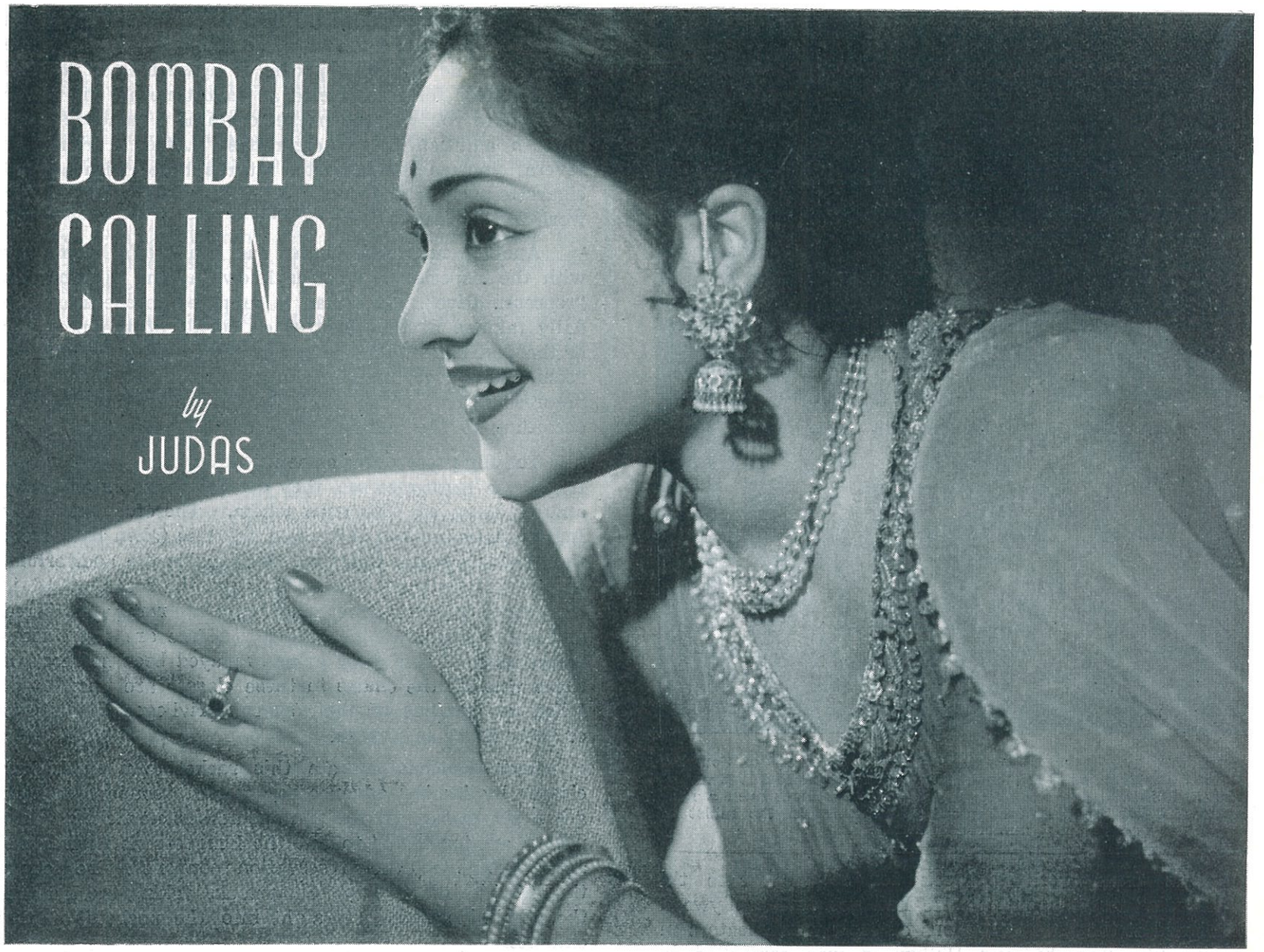
by JUDAS



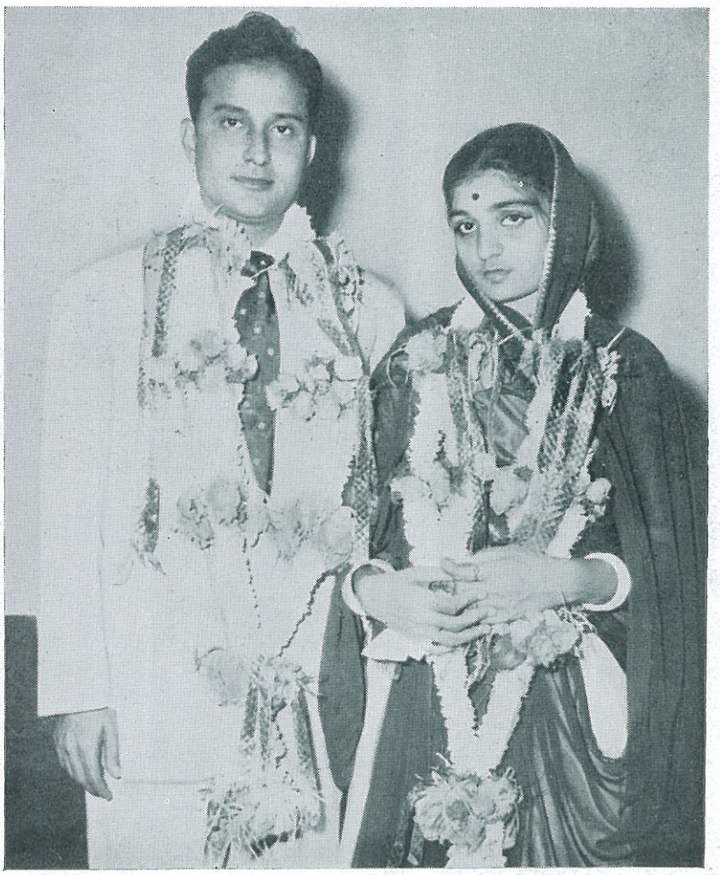
★ When a woman is in spring, there is mischief in her eyes. Scientists call that mischief sex-appeal and producers pay fortunes for this illusive quality in women. It is wonderful as long it lasts for it has a hypnotic spell on the masses which brings fortunes home. Watch this South Indian charmer, Vyjayantimala, in "Sitara", a brisk entertainer.

MORARJI SHOULD ACT QUICKLY

A racket of printing and selling bogus cinema tickets has been discovered by the Bombay police and so far six employees of the Excelsior Cinema have been arrested. The police also discovered a printing machine, a numbering machine, a number of blocks and 5000 half-burnt spurious tickets. The arrest of Hormusji Pherozeshah Rutnagar, whom the police described as the "brain" that took the major part of the "booty" and whom Chief Presidency Magistrate Khambatta released on a bail of Rs. 2000/-, brings the name of the respectable Western India Theatres Ltd.—a firm controlled by the respectable exhibitor Mr. K. M. Modi, into, probably, unnecessary limelight because Hormusji Rutnagar, the accused, alleged to be the "brain" and "booty" receiver, is a senior supervising manager of this well-known exhibition organization. The case is now under investigation and we refrain from making any further comments on this particular case.

The discovery made in this case seems to have shocked many in the film industry and we just cannot understand why. That exhibitors all over the country have been reaping a rich harvest, one way or other for years, has been pretty well known to all the film producers in the country. We have always insisted on saying that most of our exhibitors, with very few exceptions, were unscrupulous scoundrels. We have often described them as goondas.

The only difference between one unscrupulous exhibitor and another is seen in his method of robbing the producer. This racket of robbing the producer has been rampant all over the country and is as old as the film industry itself. One very respectable exhibitor in Karachi swallowed 60% of the total weekly collections of his



A wedding is always an event. Gulbadan, daughter of Compeer Ramoo Thakkar, said she would love and be loyal to Dr. Kanu V. Mehta, M.B.B.S., and Lecturer in Physiology, without even a mild aperient. The wedding took place at "Girnar" in the midst of numerous friends.

cinemas from week to week for several years till "filmindia" wrote about it. He had got even Hollywood intrigued at the poor collections of their world-beaters in a city like Karachi, and Hollywood was compelled to classify Karachi "as a little village in Sindh where they didn't understand English". From 1949, this respectable exhibitor decided to be partly honest and the weekly collections at his cinemas jumped up double. Indian and Hollywood producers started getting a part of the loot which once belonged to this very respectable exhibitor.

Among the exhibitors in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, it is considered sacrilegious to submit honest returns to the producers. The few men who do it are called bad businessmen and are socially boycotted. The physically virile exhibitors of the north take great personal pride in this game because while cheating the film producer they also rob the Government of its entertainment tax and thus get a double kick out of the racket.

Bombay being a civilized city with its citizens conscious of their rights and privileges, the Excelsior boys had to operate a printing press to print counterfeit tickets. In the north the exhibitors don't bother about this concession either to the public or to the authorities. Almost every cinema in the north has what they call a "whiskey room". In this room, the Government inspector is lodged for the evening and filled with free drinks and food. While going home he is given a packet of cigarettes. If you ask the inspector for a cigarette at that time he will never give one to you, for the packet contains a hundred-rupee note in addition to ten cigarettes. After a round of several cinemas the inspector returns home with several cigarette packets, too tired for any more hard and honest work for the day.

Another man who shares the exhibitor's hospitality with the inspector is what is known as the distributor's "representative". This man is supposed to check up the daily takings at the theatres on behalf of the producer or the distributor. As he is also lodged in the "whiskey room", he is never seen checking. The "bakshish" of this "representative" varies from Rs. 50|- to Rs. 200|- a day according to the pulling power of the picture.

The filmgoers never come into this game. As long as they get a picture to see, they don't care whom they pay and in doing so who robs whom. Therefore in many Indian cinemas when the whole ticket is taken back from the filmgoers while admitting them inside the auditorium, they don't worry as long as they get the seats. That is one reason why the lower class seats are rarely numbered and rarely reserved in advance. Those are the classes where most of this dirty game is played because most of those who fill the chairs in these classes are uneducated folks, unconscious of their special privileges as patrons or their duties as citizens.

Some cinemas operate this racket even in higher classes by issuing advance reservation "coupons" which are never exchanged for genuine admission tickets. The ushers are instructed to put the filmgoers in their seats after taking away their reservation "coupons". The tickets thus remain intact in the ticket books, taking the tax and the admission money straight into the pockets of the exhibitors.

Quite a few cinemas sell what they call "Chits" without entertainment tax to their usual patrons while others sell complimentary tickets to their friends taking only tax money. In all these transactions the genuine printed tickets never make an appearance.

A show usually lasts 2½ hours and that is the entire period of risk per show for the exhibitor. After a show no one in the world can say how many people saw the show. Even cursory checking by the government inspector is possible only in one show during an entire week. In the city of Bombay half-a-dozen inspectors are expected to check up 60 cinemas spread all over the city at once i.e. over 200 shows a day. Official checking is thus reduced to a farce and trade checking by the "representative" is readily purchased at a price.

A popular cinema in Bombay has been long suspected of swallowing 25% of its daily takings systematically. The producers cannot get the man, the police don't try to. And the game goes on.

The more popular a picture, greater the loot! That

seems to be the ruling principle of these racketeers. If some producer has the patience to study the returns of a popular picture from week to week, he will be surprised at the uniformity of pattern revealed in these returns. A popular picture shows good business in the first two weeks and then it drops by about Rs. 4000|- per week and then sticks around that figure for several weeks. Nothing that a producer can do by way of extra publicity can take that figure up in the submitted returns, even though the theatre tells a different tale. Very often—rather too often—even the distributor of the picture is also a partner in this crime.

Another well-situated cinema in Bombay has evolved its own system of operating this racket. The man who owns the cinema gets his weekly rent plus Rs. 500|- black money per week. The lessor of the cinema fixes his weekly average plus Rs. 2000|- as black money and gets it from the distributor. The manager, the principal go-between in all these transactions, charges Rs. 500|- per week black money for his services. The distributor has thus to pay Rs. 3000|- per week black money in addition to the normal hire of the week. To get this money back, he makes an arrangement with the manager to show Rs. 5000|- less as receipts per week. The distributor thus gets for himself a profit of Rs. 2000|- black money per week. These Rs. 5000|- are kept away from the producers and the government by means of "chits", "reservation coupons", "duplicate" tickets and "complimentary" admissions. In 23 shows over 7 days this works out to an average of Rs. 217|- per show—not at all a difficult proposition in a show that collects over a thousand rupees.

This game has been going on merrily for the last 40 years even in some of the biggest of cinemas in the country with very, very respectable people owning these theatres. Some of these exhibitors even enjoy the British titles of "Rao Bahadurs", "Khan Bahadurs" and what not.

The Indian film producers, helpless victims of all-round exploitation, have no remedy against this. And they are denied even an appeal to the human conscience when their own distributors join the exhibitors in this racket. Most of our exhibitors are men of proven character as unscrupulous scoundrels. It is therefore useless to appeal to them either in the name of better national morals or better business morality.

The Government alone can remedy this situation and we expect the usually alert Chief Minister Morarji Desai to stop this racket which is losing the Government millions every year in Entertainment Tax.

We therefore urge upon the Government to post in every cinema a government inspector constantly on duty —as has been done in liquor shops—and make the cinema-owner pay his salary. Even the producer may be made to pay 50% of the inspector's salary during the weeks that his picture runs there. The inspector should be provided with a special numbering machine with government insignia with which all tickets for sale must be stamped

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in advance for the day. The inspector should be given a handy counting machine (there are many available in the market) for counting the number of people in the auditorium from show to show and to check up the same with the actual sale of the tickets per show and then made to prepare his report after every show for sudden inspection by a supervising inspector. A copy of this report can be supplied to the producer against a small payment. This will also provide new employment to thousands of needy persons.

If possible cinemas may be compelled, by amending our theatre licensing rules, to instal turnstiles automatically registering the number of people admitted at the entrance of each class. This will also prevent the usual rush for seats by filmgoers and teach them some discipline. Such turnstiles are found in all the cinemas of New York. We use them very successfully at our racecourses in Poona and Bombay. These turnstiles will provide to the government inspector an automatic account of the sale of tickets. In the event of his finding a difference, he can always count a particular audience with his handy counting machine.

The Excelsior Cinema case shows that this measure is now overdue if we are to prevent the wholesale robbery of Entertainment Tax that is being perpetrated now all over the country.

Only Chief Minister Morarji Desai can take quick steps to stop this robbery. And we expect him to do so.

EAST AND MAE WEST

There was a time even in the West when at the slightest item of embarrassment men used to cough and women used to blush, clothes were meant for covering the body and skirts used to be long and loose, people used to get out of their clothes only to enter the bath or the bed and an exposed female ankle used to make male heads swim. And when once a lady named Godiva did decide to leave her clothes at home and ride through the city's streets wearing only her tresses, it was only a form of non-violent satyagraha against taxes long before Mahatma Gandhi patented other forms in India. And the inhabitants of Godiva's town were so gentle that when the lady rode out they rushed in and closed their doors except one solitary Tom who peeped and was struck blind.

Today, of course, the West has changed and the Far West more so. Cough has become only a symptom of disease and blush has been replaced by rouge. Skirts have become tight and morals loose. Nudism has become a cult and semi-nudism a craze. Undressing in public has become an art and yesterday's peeping Toms have become today's staring dinner-jacketed burlesque patrons. And with all this, vulgarity has carved for itself a special niche in Western society. Specially in America, vulgarity has been raised to a popular pedestal where it has become a recognized art and business, a way of life and a way of making a living.

The lowest depth of public vulgarity that the West has ever reached is perhaps best represented by that living legend of lewdness, the woman who lent her name to the life preserving jacket—Mae West.

Mae West has established reputation as a synonym for a dirty joke and as the epitome of vulgarity. Nobody has ever used vulgarity as an art and business and as a way of making a living with more brazen thoroughness than Mae West. When after years of comparative obscurity, Mae West, last year in July, made her night-club debut at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas, she again spotlighted herself as the dirtiest symbol of public vulgarity in the West.

Accompanied by seventeen men—nine of them loinclothed weight-lifters with rippling muscles including muscular Dick Dubois (Mr. America) as grist to her vulgarity mill—Mae West employed her forty minutes under the spotlight for dealing dirtily with sex and shaped

her show carefully to make it a stinking essay on lewdness and vulgarity.

She began her show with "I feel like a million tonight. But—one at a time". In that city of whirling roulette wheels, reckless rakes and twinkling tarts, she did not have to explain whether she referred to carrots or lobsters.

Addressing the muscle-men with her she said, "I'm pleased to meet you boys—face to face", adding "Don't crowd me, boys, there's enough for all." The Las Vegas audience applauded her generosity.

She then decided to reveal more of her intimate desires and sang "I Wanna Do All Day What I Do All Night". Nobody in that town of galloping dominoes and gambolling dames ran away with the idea that she meant reading the Bible. And during that song she philosophised "Why marry a ballplayer when you can have the whole team?" At that time it made Marilyn Monroe look quite silly as Joe DiMaggio's wife.

Mae West tried to interest the girls in the audience too with her song "I've Got Something For The Girls—Boys, Boys, Boys!" Putting up well-muscled "Mr. America" for sale, she advertised him as "an all-around man—he won the broad jump, too" and advised prospective customers, "If there's any defective parts, send him back to me, because he's got my 90-day factory guarantee".

For the males she had some advice in the song "Take It Easy Boys, And Last A Long, Long Time". When towards the end of the show Mr. America (Dick Dubois) sang "Everything I Have Is Yours", Mae West reassured him "And I'll know what to do with it". In her later appearances sentences like "Fix the pillows, honey, I may want to lie down for a couple of days" crowded her show, while one ending of her show had her distributing to the muscle-men the keys to her hotel suite along with time schedules.

This is Mae West providing the best example of vulgarity as business and profession, a low device of entertainment and a lewd way of making a living. And she was admired not only in the lusty Las Vegas but all over America from Boston to Chicago and New York to Washington as she took the show on tour after the Las Vegas debut. Mae West, who had gained deep notoriety as a mistress of vulgarity only by 1930 and who had once serious trouble with the law because of her self-written plays "Sex" and "The Pleasure Man", still insists that most of her spontaneous remarks are innocent until distorted by quoting them out of context. And as an innocent example of her innocence she gives the incident when she was leaving a city hotel and worried about two large-size trunks that had to be carried downstairs, she rang up the desk. Mae West complains that with anybody else it wouldn't have made any difference but in her case shortly after her phone call to the desk, the whole city was repeating that Mae West had called downstairs and said, "I want a boy—a big boy".

We suppose she must have been similarly innocent on the occasion of her interview by Hollywood Columnist Hedda Hopper. Recalling the actors who had played the leading roles in Mae West's pictures, Hedda asked "You had Cary Grant too, didn't you?" To which Mae West replied in a languid tone, "Twice, dear, had him twice".

Well, this reigning deity of vulgarity, who must be old enough to be a grandmother, may be innocent according to Western standards but for an Easterner it is difficult to appreciate the Mae West brand of innocence.

Mae West, however, is too far away from us to constitute a threat to our culture and ethics. What we are worried about is that Mae West's "innocence" seems to be reaching India too. This was proved when at the recent J. C. Jain's smutty "Clare" show at the Brabourne

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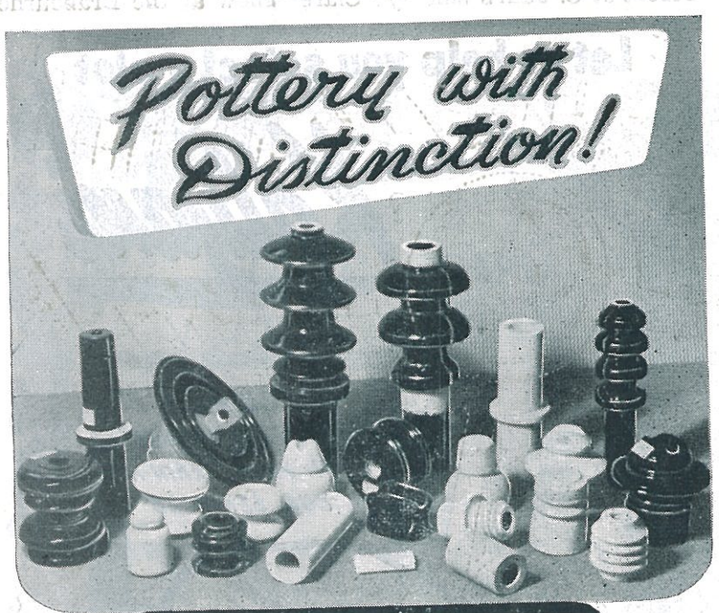
Stadium, Begum Para, playing an army officer's wife, confessed to having slept with another man during her husband's absence and become pregnant in the process and asked a 'doctor' to help her in carrying out an abortion, while Shammi drew the audience's attention to her big breasts by asking the same 'doctor' to reduce the size of her breasts so that her pictures won't have any trouble with the censors. Till Jain and Johar and Para and Shammi had combined to give a distinguished audience of 4000 respectable men and women this vulgar spectacle, Bombay had never before witnessed a public performance so vulgar, filthy and disgusting. That show was dyed in Mae West's vulgarity and it made us wonder if the Indian soil had already produced Mae West's counterparts here.

Kipling said that East and West shall never meet. It seems some people are trying to find a common meeting ground for them in vulgarity. And Morarji let Jain and Johar escape with a mock apology.



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CHARACTER VS REPUTATION

India is an ancient land of discoveries and discoverers. Buddha discovered the secret of Nirvana, the Mughal Akbar discovered a new religion, Mohammed Ali Jinnah discovered a new nation within an old one, Mahatma Gandhi discovered Nehru, and Nehru discovered Dhebar, to name only a few historic Indian discoveries.

On a less historical level, Mehboob discovered Nadira, Kidar Sharma discovered Geeta Bali, Kishore Sahu discovered himself, Raj Kapoor and Nargis discovered each other, and the greatest discovery of them all, Producer K. Asif discovered Financier Shapurji Pallonji.

And now, believe it or not, the doughty film actresses of South India have discovered the secret of lilywhite reputation, i.e. how to live in this mundane, scandalous world, specially in that spot where Latitude 13.8N intersects the Longitude 80.19E which happens to be the geographical location of Madras, and more specially as an actress, and yet be able to enjoy a blemishless reputation, white as snow, bright as the sun and sweet as Chanel No. 5.

And what is the secret? The secret is: Do anything, but do not be found inside a film studio after the sun has disappeared from our horizon and the Indian clock has struck ten. For, that is the hour, according to South Indian actresses, beyond which an actress's reputation is really exposed to scandal and uncharitable gossip. And if, like ghosts and spirits which return to their graves with the first crow of the cock, the actresses would only wipe off their grease paint and rush out of the studios as the clock strikes ten in the night, their reputation will not be the subject of any wily whisper, they will be known as paragons of virtue and good behaviour, their traducers will become tongue-tied, and they may even replace Sitas and Savitris as examples of ideal womanhood.

This sounds a dunderheaded discovery, but the other day the female members of the South Indian Film Artistes' Association, peeved by some "smearing and vilifying campaign indulged in by the "Yellow Press" ", passed a resolution demanding that shooting of films after 10 P.M. be stopped in this country and that if shooting after that hour could not be avoided, producers should shoot only those portions of films in which male artistes alone would be required.

This is the most unique and foolish cause-and-effect affair we have heard of. Because some dirty film rags write nasty things about actresses, they decide to demand from the producers that they should not be asked to put the paint on and face the camera after 10 P.M. We fail

Smug! Marriage makes them like that. The fire of youth has ceased to hurt and they wear a shawl of satisfaction. They are afraid no longer and they don't care who comes. Watch Usha Kiran in "Awaaz", a household tale told for family audiences.

to understand the connection between vilification of actresses by the "Yellow Press" and their participation in shooting after 10 P.M. And we also do not see how their not working after 10 P.M. can become the foundation-stone of good reputation or a curb on the rags which indulge in vilification.

If there is an abundance of anything in this land, it is laws. And among all those laws there are also laws which make injury to a person's reputation an offence and provide penalty for the offence. If there are some papers which slander and vilify the actresses, the only sensible thing for the actresses to do is to invoke the law, have the vilifiers prosecuted and the offenders punished.

But coupling one's reputation with one's professional working hours is sheer stupidity. Do the South Indian actresses mean to say that their working after 10 P.M. is the only cause of their reputations being attacked? Do they mean to say that working after 10 P.M. is a necessary provocation to one's vilifiers? And don't these actresses know that numerous women following the noble profession of Florence Nightingale work all through night and that they have never demanded that they should not be asked to work after 10 P.M. in the interests of their reputations?

In their resolution the South Indian actresses say that shooting after 10 P.M. should be stopped in this country "in line with the practice in Western countries". These actresses remembered one Western practice, but apparently forgot many others. They should have also remembered that in Western countries actresses do not work in six pictures at a time, which is the usual practice in India, and that they are punctual, efficient and co-operative. Actresses in West are easily available for rehearsals, reach the sets in time, remember their lines and even eat the diet prescribed by their studios. Nor do they make fools of themselves in cricket tamashas.

Recently in a suburban studio in Bombay, an actress, who happens to be lucky in popularity, limited in talent and swollen in the head, was called upon to do a scene in which she had to be in a pool of water. The actress kept on hesitating to enter the pool wasting precious studio time and then after a lot of frivolousness frivolously asked an assistant director to enter the pool. The assistant retorted that had he been paid the six-figure amount which she was getting he would have gladly done it. This remark infuriated the actress and

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They play too long and when the bird has flown they weep too long. That is woman love—unreasonable in spring, inconsolable in winter. Nimmi sheds her tears over Bharat Bhushan in "Basant Bahar", a thrilling tale, but it is all too late.

she stormed out of the studio forcing the day's work to be cancelled. Actresses in West never indulge in this sort of criminal non-cooperation. Nor are there any actresses in West like the one in Bombay who goes to her work with a retinue of dozen or more nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles forcing her producers to feed her retinue with eggs and liver at breakfast, chicken at luncheon and tea and cold drinks throughout the day.

Let our actresses learn to take their work seriously and behave gracefully in public and they won't find it so difficult to win public esteem and respect. Vilifiers are there in every profession and their only remedy is the law.

As for the South Indian actresses' demand that films should not be shot after 10 P.M., they seem to have got bees in their bonnets. What our actresses should worry about is their character and not their reputation. But character is inherited. And that is a pity!

NEW PRIZES AND PRIORITY COUPONS

Democracy is becoming a real headache these days. Every one writes to every one when one every one wants something from the other every one. Your editor is no exception. He has been receiving thousands of letters asking him to restore the cartoons and prizes in the Editor's Mail section. We have not made up our mind about the cartoons yet because our cartoonist is still reported "missing" but we have decided to revive and foster the competitive spirit among our readers by giving token prizes for good and interesting questions in the Editor's Mail.

The total prize amount will, however, be only Rs. 300|-, particulars of which you will find at the foot of the "Editor's Mail" section this month. The first prizes in this new series will be given from August 1955 when we bring out the Independence Number. And to cut down unnecessary mail, we are also introducing "Priority Coupons" which entitle a reader to get his questions answered quickly and not wait in a year-long queue. The "Priority Coupon" also helps him to get a prize quickly if his questions are found worthy of the same.

That settles one point. The other point may be settled any day without giving the readers a previous warning.

YOU'LL HARDLY BELIEVE—

THAT Pandit Nehru said, "I am going to the Soviet Union not only with an open mind but, I hope, with an open heart." We knew Panditji had an open mind the way he keeps giving us big chunks of it every day but we never knew that he was not sure of his heart also. Marwaris will now start accepting "open-to-close" betting on Nehru's heart.

THAT referring to the bleeding and broken heads of Indians during their first march into Goa, Pandit Nehru said that, "the Portuguese were still uneducated as far as satyagraha was concerned". But Pandit Nehru thought the Portuguese would gradually improve. Yes, they would if they got enough Praja Socialists with bare heads.

THAT Praja Socialist Peter Alvares, the President of Goa Liberation Committee, however, does not believe in the gradual reformation of the Portuguese and has decided to keep himself on the Indian soil as long as possible. This new "St. Peter" of the Goanese therefore goes all over India for liberating the Goans but nowhere within ten miles of Goa. Anyway he regularly fills the newspaper columns with stories of the Portuguese being anxious to shoot him at sight. That is love at first sight.

THAT making Kashmir an excuse, Mohammed Ali, Prime Minister of Pakistan, once again met Pandit Nehru in New Delhi for what was described as "1955 approach". The only 1955 thing about the entire approach was the appearance of the Arab-Canadian, Aliya Sadi, Mohammed Ali's second Begum, on the scene. Meeting Pandit Nehru was probably a part of Aliya's dowry. It was, indeed, a "noo" approach to old Kashmir.

THAT her marriage with Chintaman Deshmukh, our financial wizard, seems to have given Durgabai a permanent inferiority complex. In a recent attempt to live it down she said in Bombay, "Nearly 4000 women workers are now serving on 28 social welfare advisory boards

throughout the country. Even the Finance Minister cannot create such an army of workers." Next time Durgabai should allow others to say this. People don't like to hear bedroom quarrels in public meetings.

THAT as if to counteract the competitive spirit of companionship displayed by Durgabai in her holy matrimony and to nip the same in the bud, 1000 Hindu wives of Lucknow reverently washed the feet of their husbands and drank the "charanamrit" on the banks of the Gomati river for five long days. Now, what is the use of the Divorce Bill to these women? They are likely to use its pages for their little children's toilet needs.

THAT Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia is worried and says that "the Praja Socialist Party is suppurating these days". That is not a new malady. It is in fact a chronic trouble. The "suppuration" began the day a top Praja Socialist leader started chasing a flat-chested graduate round the city of Bombay. And it is common medical knowledge that all 'venereal' troubles suppurate.

THAT the Assurances Committee formed in December 1953 to scrutinize the assurances and promises made by the ministers in Parliament has had quite a stagnant career since its birth. Its record shows that 760 assurances have been pending for 2 years and 9 months, 39 for over two years, 108 for less than two years, 79 for less than six months and 191 for less than two months. After this record, why bother about giving assurances at all? Everyone knows by now that Congressmen are damn liars. Why rub this fact in and lose votes?

THAT according to Vijaylakshmi Pandit the United Nations Organization is "still perhaps the least known organization in the world". "People knew the name", she said, "and people knew that there was a Political Committee of United Nations where everybody always quarrelled". Now we know why Indians didn't take old Vijaya seriously when they put her in the president's chair, though all the Nehrus of India gave us a war dance in celebration of the event.

THAT to emphasize the new slogan of a socialistic pattern of society, Chaplin-moustached Dhebar, President of the Congress, adopted a hut in the Bhangi Colony of Delhi as his headquarters. This mock Gandhian ritual was soon copied by Takhatmal Jain, Chief Minister of Madhya Bharat, who decided to use only three rooms of his official palace, lie on hard furniture and ride in a tiny little car. That is nothing new to Bombayites. We have seen Morarji sitting on a verandah day and night and sleeping on a mat for years. Of course he drinks a pound of cocoanut oil through his pores next day. But then that is yoga—again a spiritual exercise. Gandhiji ate a pound of butter through his pores.

THAT our new national epidemic of a socialistic pattern of society has affected even the good old Nizam, the monarch of many wives and much wealth. He has begun to pull up his old sons nowadays for their spendthrift habits and to advertise the fact that he is being patriotic, he does it through an Urdu weekly called "Shiraz". His last outburst was when the jolly old Muazzam Jah spent Rs. 18000/- in one night over a fancy dress ball. If the Nizam sees the wrist watches Muazzam has given to Anglo-Indian nurses, he will die of a broken heart.

THAT India is becoming a more and more interesting place to live in every day. Recently the Bengal Government bought two palaces, "Gulab Baug" and "Tosh Khana", from the Maharaja of Burdwan and converted them into homes for vagrants. The transaction saved the Maharaja from becoming a vagrant just in the nick of time. We like the West Bengal Government and hope the Bombay Government follows its example and obliges Baburao Patel by buying "Girnar" and putting Congress legislators in it. "Girnar" is a grand place for Congress half-wits.

THAT even an affliction is a blessing when the right man gets it. In Delhi recently film actress Chand Usmani's chaperoning uncle got an attack of renal colic and could not move out of bed, leave alone bringing her back to Bombay to keep her shooting schedule. So little Chand travelled alone and in one night and one day added ten years more to her personality. That is what train travel does to young girls.

THAT Arabian Villa this year had an Idd of Idds when Dilip Kumar flew all the way from the sets of "Insaniyat" in Madras and landed right into Madhubala's mirror as she was busy bursting her pimples. The only man who did not enjoy this Idd was Papa Attaullah, the Khan of Khans.

THAT this year's Idd brought bad prospects to Producer-e-Azam K. Asif with Sitara, India's famous Kathak dancer, leaving for England all alone and saying on the top of it, "I am not at all afraid of travelling by

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Dadar (Central Rly.), BOMBAY—14.

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Eyes reveal the woman if men have the brains and experience to read them. Here is one with a definite design in her eyes. She is called Jabeen and let us see what she does in "Bara Dari" a love tale.

myself". But Asif never said she was afraid. He was worried about others who meet her. And Asif should know.

THAT film actress Usha Kiran celebrated her first wedding anniversary in the Mehboob Studios and introduced her husband Dr. Manohar Kher, a man of retiring disposition, to the producers of the pictures she is working in. Our producers are atheists. They don't believe in God unless they see one. And they probably still can't believe what they saw. The infidels!

THAT spring found a young publicist named Gyan Dutt quite unguarded when our old-time versatile actress Snehaprabha Pradhan came along with her disarming smile and baby talk. Though named Gyan, the guy lost his wits and versatile Snehaprabha led her third (or is it fourth?) husband to the altar. Let us hope this experiment succeeds.

THAT the "noo" actor Sunil Dutt, who sports a Dilip Kumar hair-do and nothing more, says, "I am getting married in my own caste. The match was arranged by the parents." How orthodox and unromantic? The man has thus sounded his death-knell as a glamour boy just when old film girls were beginning to look at him twice. Too bad!

THAT with Bibi Suraiya holidaying in Pakistan the burden of looking after film actor Nasir Khan seems to have fallen on Kitty Kelly alias Monisha Devi alias Arti alias Bimla Kumari. This four-in-one pal, however, seems to believe that housekeeping begins with a dinner in an expensive restaurant.

THAT once again Sardar Chandulal Shah and Miss Gohar are reported to have been quite excited over a wonderful story. Said Chandulal, "Such tales come one's way once in ten or fifteen years." And we were just thinking of calling on him for sake of old times but then we remembered what had happened to us when Chandulal had stumbled over the story of "Jogan" years ago. We had heard the story over the telephone a dozen times and each time for an hour, for Indian film stories are always unblushingly long.

THAT film actor Balraj Sahni is fast becoming a Congressman. To prove that he is no longer a Communist, he has bought himself a new car and is actually searching for a chauffeur. But motor drivers want to know whether ex-Communists pay their drivers in time or not.

THAT Producer-director Nakshab stripped film actress Nadira so thoroughly in his posters of "Raftar" that good, old-fashioned Indians turned away from the Roxy Cinema and went and saw Naidu's "Azaad" at the Minerva. The only man who seemed to have liked "Raftar" seems to be Kevalchand of Roxy. The poster fascinated him.

THAT the ever-fertile Ambalal J. Patel called a few film boys and girls to his "White House" for his usual Chembur-vegetable dinner and decided to form an International Film Club with Nargis, Vijayalaxmi, David, Dewan Sharar and of course, himself on the first committee of the club. It was all planned on international Rotarian principles but when the cap went round for collections, it returned empty without even the visiting cards of the committee members. Thus ended one noble idea. That calls for another Chembur-vegetable dinner.

THAT the Parsi actress Shammi is fast becoming a linguist. Having learnt Marwari under Sajjan, she is now taking lessons in Punjabi under I. S. Johar. We can't understand why she wastes all this time in learning wrong stuff seeing that we are not producing many pictures in regional languages?

THAT foreigners are not the only people who slander India. Slandering India is evidently a profitable game seeing that even Filmistan is reported to be producing "Bombay Flight 417", an anti-Indian theme. The other day Producer S. Mukherjee apologetically told a press gathering: "It (the picture) does not misrepresent our country in any way. I would even add, this story does try to show the good points of our culture to the extent that has been possible within the scope of its production." He then assured the journalists that once they were

established in the international field, they would make pictures, "with more propaganda value of our country, culture, art and heritage". But why not begin with all these things first?

THAT famous dancer Sitara and film actor Pradeep Kumar met at a party for the first time. A few hours later Sitara's Studebaker collided against Pradeep Kumar's Studebaker. The 'coincidence' has shattered the nerves of Pradeep Kumar who now gets nightmares with Sitara and the Studebakers in them.

THAT film actress Shyama, a Muslim girl, is reported to have suddenly become an anti-Prohibitionist. This political awareness has made her face fat and flabby and brought pockets under her eyes. And all this in spite of Income Tax Officer Palkhiwalla chasing her for a lakh and twenty thousand rupees. Girls should never take to current politics.

THAT Cameraman Fali Mistry doesn't seem to have stopped photographing film actress Vyjayantimala though "Nagin" has completed a run of twenty-five weeks at the Liberty. He still calls on her to discover new angles for lighting and embarrasses Papa Raman and Grandma Yadugiri Devi.

THAT a "noo" film actress called Krishna Kumari, who is known as Rajendra Kaur off the screen, has offered a prize of Rs. 51|- for a "noo" name beginning with "R", as she feels that her present name is unlucky. Now, for that price she can get only a cheap name like Rangeli.

THAT our mighty midget of the screen, film actress Yashodhara Katju, is scared of snakes. In "Dasehra" a dagger had to be substituted for a reptile. Poor girl, she is afraid of reptiles crawling on their stomachs but doesn't care for snakes crawling on their fours.

THAT Producer Vankudre S. made his heroine Sandhya perform a Bhil dance so many times that the poor girl ultimately fell down with a broken leg. That made Vankudre S. carry the leg home on his own shoulders. And if you want to know how it still pains, have one look at the once-charming face of Jayashree.

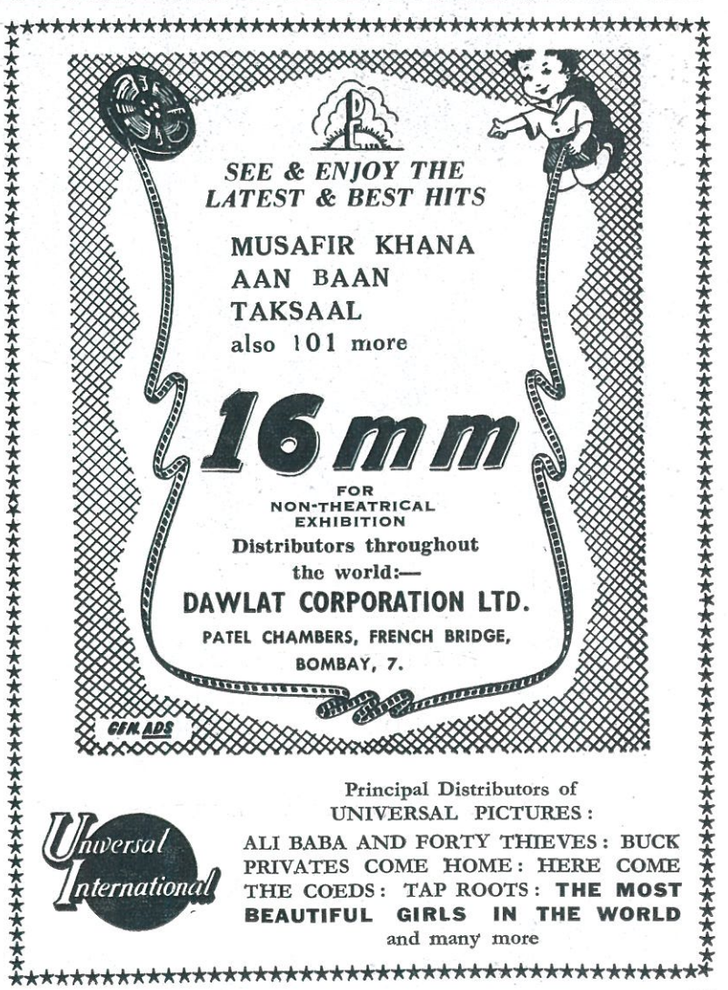
THAT when women fall in love with women, time travels in reverse gear. Mrs. Chopra, the devoted wife of Producer-director B. R. Chopra, recently met one Miss Manik from Poona and rightaway fell in love with her. Now Hubby Chopra is ordered to groom the girl to stardom which poor old Chopra is trying his best to do under adverse circumstances. What a henpecked chap!

THAT our little Railway Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri has been so much impressed by the physical exercises prescribed by film actress Venus Bannerjee that he has decided to give training to all the railway officers to improve the general efficiency of the railway department. One Suri of Western Railway is already reported to have acquired a new personality and jumped over several efficiency bars after a few months of these invigorating exercises. We always knew Venus to be a very scientific artiste and we are glad "filmindia" has contributed to our railwaymen's health. Let us however hope the railwaymen don't start developing bosoms.

That film actress Nimmi has decided to follow our Constitution faithfully and be perfectly secular in taking future acting assignments. She remembers that while Muslim producers came only for her singing performances, it was Hindu Raj Kapoor who gave her the first chance and made her famous. Besides, she is fed up of her Muslim producers quarrelling over her every day. Even Babu Girdharilal Manchanda, Kardar's conscience-keeper, doesn't like such quarrels in Nehru's peaceful India.

THAT the new dancing craze Kum Kum has become so popular these days that almost every producer wants to give her an exclusive contract. Guru Dutt offered one for two years. Chetan came along and offered one for three years exclusively. Her guardian, Munnan Bai, who doesn't understand the terms "inclusive" and "exclusive" is now waiting for something conclusive on paper. Let us see who does that?

THAT film actress Noor, Shakila's sister, has developed a passion for diamonds and insists only on diamonds being given to her as presents on her birthday. Of all people Comedian Johnny Walker has promised to give her the Kohinoor on her next birthday. That will bring the Kohinoor back to Noor and, of course, India.



HE WANTED TO BUILD A HOUSE, BUT INSTEAD HE ENTERED A GAMBLING HOUSE . . . . AND . . . . ?

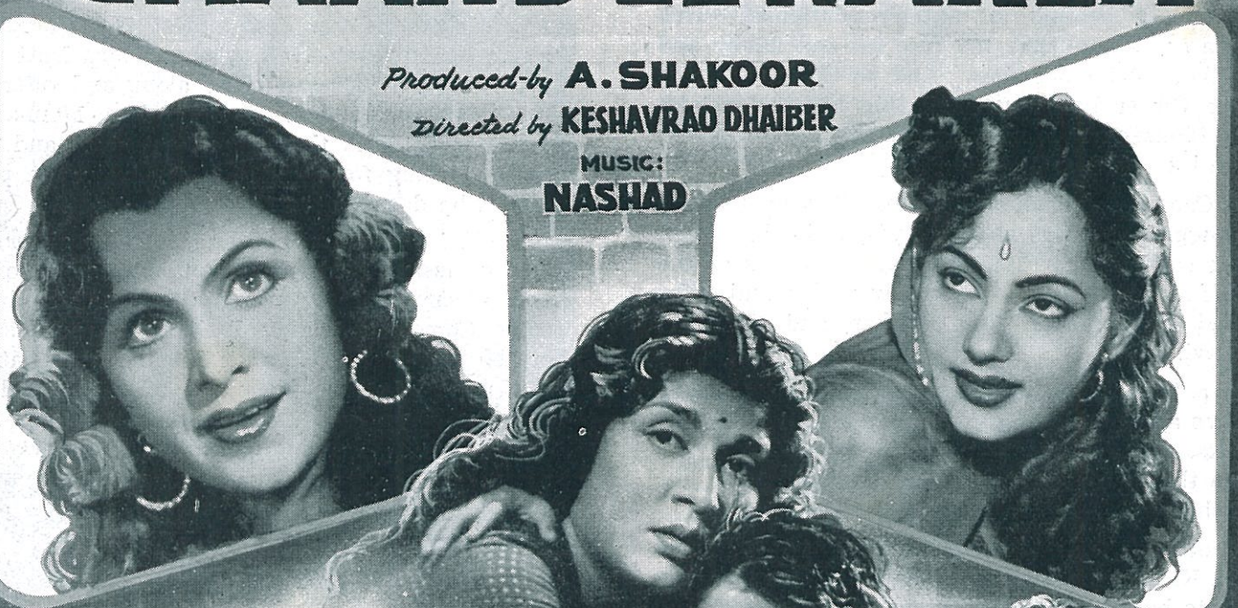
FESTIVAL FILMS'

CHAAR DEEWAREN

Produced by **A. SHAKOOR**

Directed by **KESHAVRAO DHAIBER**

MUSIC:
NASHAD



STARRING:

NIGAR SULTANA
KARAN DEWAN
WASTI • MIRZA MUSHRAF •
JANKIDAS • MASTER RAJOO
•
RANJANA SHUKLA
•
AND VIJAYALAXMI

DIALOGUE :— MOHSIN JALIL
DANCES :— SOHANLAL
STORY :— D. SARAN SHARMA
SONGS :— SHEVAN RIZVI
ART :— I. M. SHAIKH
CAMERA :— V. K. DAVE.

★ ★

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ASHA ADVTS

MARCH OF TIME

TIP TO MORARJI

Though Paris reminds one of fun and glamour, its sick and sordid side is pretty disheartening. But not so to Abbe Andre Talvas, a social reformer, who has helped to regenerate over 300 prostitutes in Paris and made them fit into new and better schemes of life as workers, wives and mothers.

Father Talvas had a tough job rescuing the prostitutes from souteneurs who exploit them and live on their earnings. There are nearly 5000 souteneurs in Paris and they use any method from gentle persuasion to murder to keep the prostitutes under their thumb.

At Le Nid (The Nest) these prostitutes are taught arts and crafts, housework, etc., according to their individual needs. Way back in 1937, Father Talvas was called to the bedside of a dying woman. She was a prostitute who had lost the will to live. But under Talvas' guidance, she recovered and broke away from her past. That set Father Talvas thinking and Le Nid is probably the beginning of his useful work. The French Government donated some money recently towards Le Nid but most of its funds come from generous individuals. Says Father Talvas: "Le Nid is not just an ordinary rehabilitation centre. It is a home where strong bonds are created for life."

We are often told that ours is a welfare state. But sadly enough, even after seven-and-a-half years of freedom, the 'cages' of Foras and Falkland Roads are still thriving like virulent bacteria. Why can't our Morarji become the Father Talvas of Bombay? As the Chief Minister he is already our high priest.

PROFITABLE COMMUNISM

Though the Communist ideal aims at equal distribution of wealth in theory, the practice of Communism leads to different results, if we are to believe the present disturbing reports from the U.S.S.R.

The wealthiest of Moscow's millionaires is Gregori Mikoyan. He is reported to earn an annual salary of $60,000 plus royalties as inventor of the M.I.G. jet fighter named after him.

Soviet Marshals are paid well. Each decoration entitles them to a bonus of $100 in addition to their annual salary of $25,000. So some of them get $50,000 and over, a year, tax free. Some of them invest their money in stud farms and racing stables and earn profits of $100,000—$200,000 a year.

Then there are private doctors who earn fancy amounts by treating the rich. Prof. A. L. Ussievich, a $30,000-a-year director of medical research at Moscow University, earns by private practice $100,000 to $150,000 a year.

Other multimillionaires are playwrights Konstantine Simonov and Valentin Katayev; ballerinas Lepechinskaya and Galina Ulanov; film artistes Alla Illarinova, Tamara Nosova and Serge Stoliarov, the Russian Gregory Peck.

FLYING AMAZONS

Though Amy Johnson, the famous British aviatrix, has been dead for the last fourteen years, the glorious trail she blazed for the future women pilots, is something which will be remembered with gratitude by posterity.

In the early thirties, men frowned at the idea of women pilots but when Amy Johnson made different solo flights and became a licensed pilot, the aeronautical picture began to change. During World War II, after bitter campaigning against the authorities by Amy, Britain formed the Air Transport Auxiliary and recruited women in their service. By 1941 women in this branch had ferried 2000 planes from the factories to the airfields.

Amy's worthy successor is Jacqueline Cochran, an American aviatrix, who was the first woman to break through the sound barrier. She did it in 1952, reaching 652 m.p.h. She was named as the year's outstanding pilot by the International Aviation Federation.

Another one is Jacqueline Auriol, daughter-in-law of the former French president. She beat Miss Cochran's record by rushing through sound at 683 m.p.h.

Women play their parts also on the technical side, apart from being pilots. And don't forget the charming air hostesses who smile pleasantly at passengers and often face death bravely when a plane crashes.

Pullover and slacks always help to accentuate curves—both natural and artificial—in women but they somehow take the Indian women ages away from their traditions of modesty. Whatever our young girls may do it will be good for them to remember that their mothers brought glory to this ancient land without ever wearing modern aids to personality. Nigar Sultana brings new sex-appeal to "Chaar Deewaren", a social tale.

GUJARATI WOLF

Ramu, the Lucknow wolf boy, who was picked up from Lakhmipur station and brought to the Balrampur Hospital,

Women with eyes rarely use other weapons for killing. And eyes are quite fatal when they are fixed on a face as charming as this one. Ranjana Shukla brings new thrills to the screen in "Char Deewaren", a social tale.

Lucknow, on January 17, 1954, has now become a complete vegetarian.

Dr. D. N. Sharma, Superintendent of the Balrampur Hospital, said that Ramu was not a drain on the state because he 'earned' thousands of rupees by way of donations from visitors.

In the early days, Ramu showed a marked preference for raw meat. Owing to physiotherapy Ramu's limbs are more lively now. He can stand though there is stiffness. Dr. Sharma says that only the 'animal environment' theory can explain the defects in Ramu's physical structure. The absence of callosities on his hands, feet or knees, showed that he could not have walked or crawled. The hospital authorities are preparing a book on Ramu's life.

WHITE MAN'S "VIRTUE"

Baptist Negro preacher, Rev. George W. Lee, 51, was murdered in Belzoni, U.S., because he refused to withdraw his name from the voter registration list. Lee wanted to vote like other Americans.

A mass 'memorial service' held for Rev. Lee by the state and regional NAACP (National Association For The Advancement of Coloured People) officials was attended by hundreds of Negroes.

Mr. Ray Wilkins, the Executive Secretary of NAACP, did not think the pro-segregation Citizen's Council was to be blamed for this incident but an organisation dedicated to withholding equal rights from Negroes "would tend to incite murder".

In heaven, we are sure, everyone can vote alike without fear of death!

FRENCH EDEN

Nudists living on the island of Levant near the French Riviera are having a verbal war with the French Navy. Both don't want to surrender their claims to the island.

The French Navy actually owns 90% of the island and wanted to build an experimental station on the Levant in 1952. The nudists claimed squatter's rights for the whole island. Accordingly Admiral Lambert of the French Navy posted an edict at Levant confining the nudists to one small beach and legally owned private property.

The naked colonists observe certain rules in Hyeres, the principal town, where absolute nudity is forbidden in the main street. These nudists claim that they get tourists from all over the world to see them.

Levant seems to be an eye-filling island all right.

TRAVELLERS TOGETHER

Oirschot, a tiny village in the Netherlands, celebrated a "Congress of the Twins" on May 21. Six hundred pairs of twins of ages varying from 7 to 81 from all parts of Europe—Germany, Belgium, France, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Spain, Portugal, Italy—attended the session.

Oirschot was selected as the venue because it has 63 pairs of twins in a population of a little over 7000. Two Belgian girls, 26, won the coveted award for the most likable twins. Two Dutch twins took the prize for the twins least alike. One is fair, the other dark.

Doctors took finger prints and particulars of each of the twins for medical records.

FAITH HEALER

Marisa Mancini, a 20-year-old Italian girl, is reported to have cured many Italians suffering from incurable diseases, with the mere touch of her hands.

Daughter of a mineral oil salesman, Marisa's fame started from Pesaro when she cured her brother of appendicitis pains in September last year. And now there is a regular queue of ailing humanity waiting to get relief from pain. Marisa has applied for a licence to work legally as a healer. Said Marisa: "I have nothing to fear, because I do only good."

Marisa's 'miracle cure' hands were studied by the police.

There is a likelihood of judicial authorities charging her for "abusive use of the medical profession".

PREDICTIVE HYPNOSIS

On September 19, 1949, Dr. Rubenstein carried out some experiments on hypnosis at the Department of Psychiatry at Yale University's School of Medicine.

The subject was an unmarried seventeen-year-old girl Anna Walmsley. Under a hypnotic trance, Anna cried, "My baby, my baby is dead." The doctors knew her whereabouts and five years later in September 1954, Dr. Rubenstein found Anna actually crying for her dead baby. Anna was married in 1953 and a son was born to her in July 1954.

In another incident a criminal saw himself hanged, years before the actual event took place.

This type of hypnosis is called "progressive" in contrast to "regression" where patients are usually asked to recall things of the past. The field of 'progressive' hypnosis has already revealed amazing possibilities. Every recorded case has been checked up years later. The American Association for the Advancement of Science at Washington, D. C., is studying this hitherto unknown form of hypnosis.

Probably every human being becomes a potential astrologer under the spell of hypnosis. Wonder whether Morarji Desai will scream out "I am the Prime Minister."

ISLAMIC SHAVE

Pakistan barbers headed by Mr. Islam Salmani, founder president of the All-Pakistan Barbers' Association and of the International Islamic Federation of Barbers, decided to shave the heads of Muslim pilgrims free of charge during the Haj pilgrimage at Mecca.

In an open letter to Prime Minister Mohammed Ali, Salmani said, "Pakistan barbers in this way will practically demonstrate to the world that Pakistan has been created to serve the cause of Islam and Muslims." Salmani describes himself as the "only graduate professional barber in the world".

That is some Islamic zeal and enthusiasm.

STEALING THE SEA

George A. Taskin, lecturer in Soviet geography at Fordham University, New York, revealed to the American Geographical Society that the Russians were drying up the world's largest lake, the Caspian Sea.

As it is during the last 50 years, the Caspian Sea has shrunk 14,000 square miles and now the Russians have shrunk another 169,000 square miles by building large irrigation and power projects in the Caspian Basin.

The northern Caspian fishing industry, a very flourishing industry at one time, has been badly affected. The Soviet oil industry on the Caspian shores also has transportation problems owing to this artificial shrinkage.

THE FOSSIL

According to Dr. Vicente Medina of the Colombia National University, the world's oldest inhabitant is a Zenu tribesman who is at least 120 and possibly 150 years old.

This tribesman is Javier Pereira who lives in the Sino Sinu River area of North-west Colombia. He is 4' tall, deaf and blinded by cataract. But he jabbers a lot and talks of having taken part in the Colombian War of Independence which took place nearly 135 years ago.

COMMON IN INDIA

Mrs. Ellerbe W. Carter of Titusville, U.S., a 40-year-old housewife, snatched an hour from her household duties, and gave birth to a daughter, her eighth child, completely on her own.

Mrs. Carter believes in natural and painless birth and has had six children without a doctor in attendance.

For a fussy American woman, it is indeed a great achievement. Thousands of poor Indian women deliver their babies on the roadside with only God as their nurse.

NEW DREAM MEDICINE

At the 20th Congress of the International College of Surgeons, U.S. doctors presented a new anaesthetic called Vaidril.

Vaidril was first used in a brain operation with "excellent results" last year. Since then, 130 operations have been performed with it. Surgeons claim it to be safe and efficient. The new compound is completely unrelated to other anaesthetic agents.

CARELESS MANUFACTURE

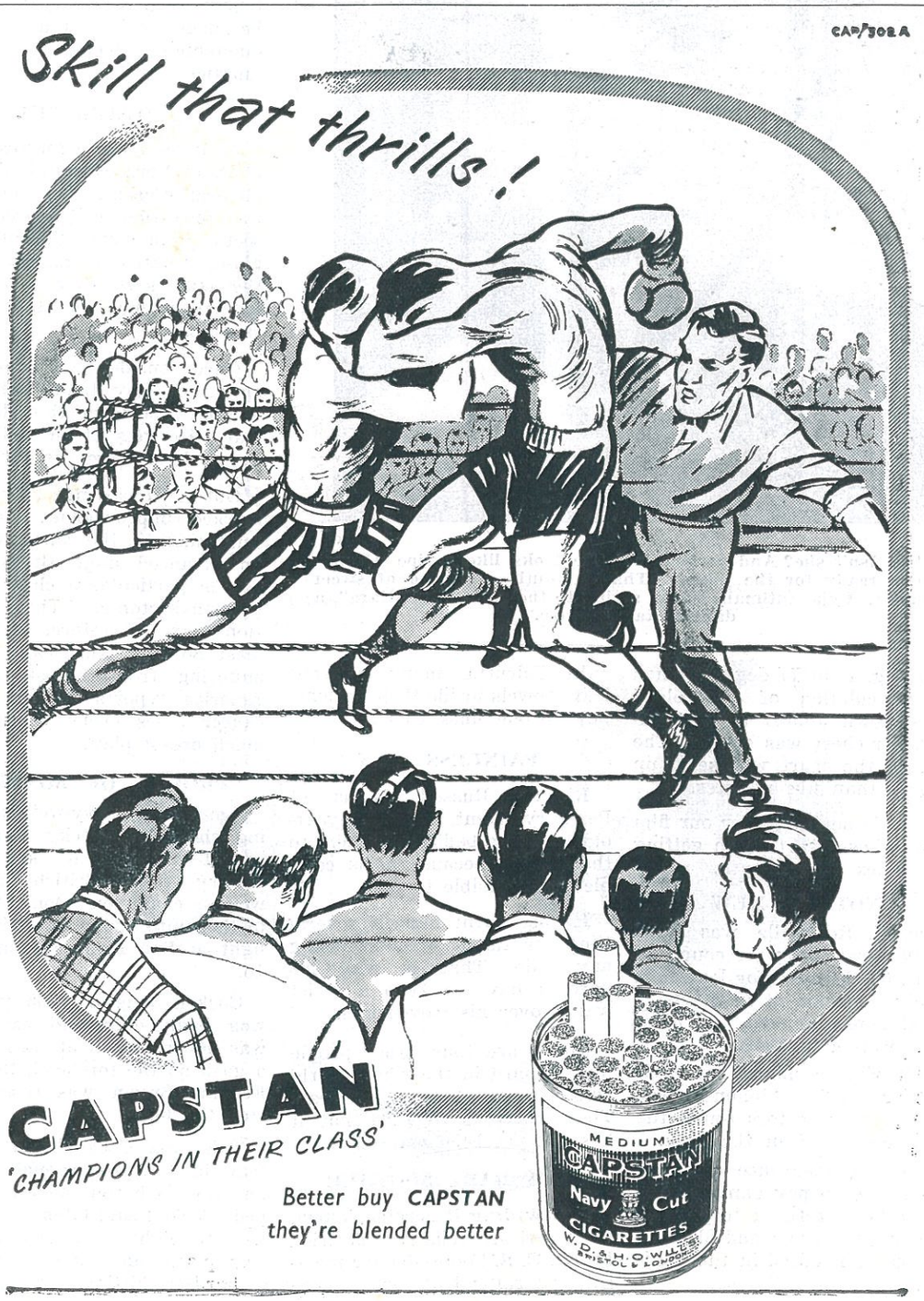
In the wake of the discovery of Salk's polio vaccine, came rather disquieting reports from U.S. that out of 5 to 6 million children inoculated with the vaccine, 56 had developed polio. Vaccine from the Cutter Laboratories of Berkeley was responsible for most of the cases.

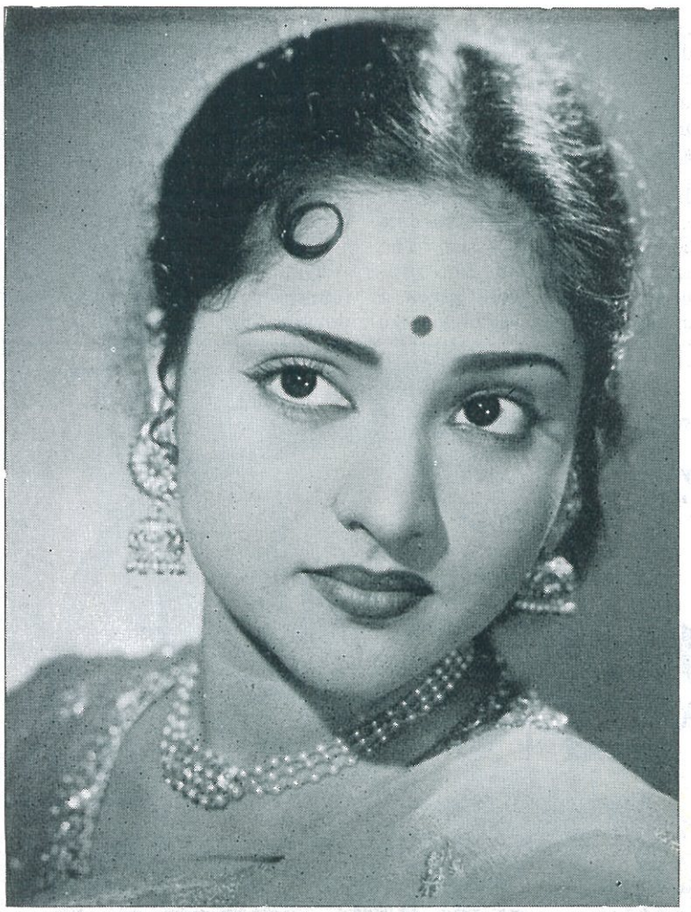
The U.S. Government, therefore, ordered all Cutter vaccine to be withdrawn from use. The other five companies who produce the vaccine were given a clean bill of health as they were proved to be safe.

HEART HOLE STITCHED

Hayel Blanchard, a 10-year-old French girl, was operated successfully by a team of doctors for a hole in the heart at the Colorado University Medical Centre, U.S.

The child's body was first immersed in ice water, bringing down the temperature from





Pretty! Isn't she? And perfect too! She looks like a ripe Alfonso mango, ready for the table. That is youth—a season of sweet mangoes. Vyjayantimala brings spring to the screen in "Sitara", a dancing tale of love.

98.6 deg. F to 77 deg. F. When the circulation of the blood came down almost to a standstill, her chest was opened. The hole in the heart was sewn up in less than five minutes.

That is new hope for our film stars whose hearts keep getting new holes every month.

NOTHING NEW

Dr. M. Rougeulle was fined 70,000 francs by a court in Beauvais, France, for leaving a probing instrument in the body of Alphonse Fement, 38, after an operation in 1949.

Following a minor car accident in 1952, Alphonse was X-rayed. The doctors found the probe embedded in the flesh.

The auto insurance company which was to pay damages for the accident refused to pay for removing the probe and filed the suit which resulted in this decision.

In Calcutta many surgeons leave towels inside their patients but no one fines them.

PAINLESS DICK

Richard Russell Mains of Pembury, Kent, an eight-year-old boy, is a baffling problem to the doctors because he is completely insensible to pain.

He has burnt himself several times or fallen without feeling any pain. That is why his parents have to keep a strict watch over his movements.

There are four other people like Richard in the whole world whose sense of touch is dead. The malady is so rare that it has not yet been named.

NEW BABY SOOTHER

A new drug Reserpine known to American Indians was tried by Dr. E. S. Foote, deputy medical superintendent, in a Dorchester hospital, on some mad, rowdy patients.

One mad patient lost his destructive habits after the administration of reserpine. He used to destroy one blanket a night and one mattress a week and gnaw the wood of his bed but after reserpine, he became neat and tidy and gave up his old habits.

Dr. Foote thinks that an extensive trial of reserpine should be made as it has a "marked quietening effect" on unruly lunatics.

ANOTHER CUT

Neurosurgeon Bronson Ray of New York Hospital, Cornell Medical Centre, has perfected the operation called hypophysectomy, in which the pituitary gland situated in the middle of the skull is removed to control the recurrence or spread of cancers.

Once considered a dangerous operation, Ray takes only 1½ hours to perform this delicate feat. He gets at the pituitary by working from the forehead.

Out of 37 patients, 20 showed marked improvement. In the remaining 17, the cancer was in an advanced stage. Breast cancer is particularly checked by hypophysectomy. This operation can, therefore, save at least 80% of American women suffering from breast cancer. America reports 50,000 breast cancer cases every year. Too much breast play!

PROFITS OF BOXERS

American heavy-weight boxing champion Rocky Marciano scored a technical knock-out victory over British heavy-weight champion Don Cockell in the ninth round of their title fight at San Francisco on May 16.

Cockell weighing 205 pounds was badly hurt and as blood was flowing down his face from a gash on the forehead, Referee Frankie Brown was forced to stop the fight.

This was Cockell's 11th defeat in 73 professional bouts and the sixth time he was stopped. Cockell said later, "I would like to fight Marciano again, any place, any time. He's not the hardest hitting man I've fought. He just hits more often."

The Marciano-Cockell fighting bout was an exciting event witnessed by thousands of crazy spectators and fetched over £127928 — £44,000 being from television, £12,500 from radio and £71,428 by way of admission fees. Marciano's share came to £46,000 while Cockell will get £23,000.

ANOTHER FETTER

Pierre Henri Teitgen, French Minister for Overseas Territories, opened the world's longest bridge at Douala, French Cameroons, on May 15.

The bridge, made of specially adopted concrete, measures 1830 metres and spans the Vuri river estuary.

One more symbol of colonial expansion.

TWO IN ONE

The U.S. Defence Department has developed a new hybrid plane, the Mc Donnell Aircraft Corp's experimental XV-I Convertiplane.

This model is half helicopter and half airplane and is built to carry four passengers. It has a speed of 150—200 m.p.h. It rises like a helicopter and then flies like a plane. The Convertiplane had its second test in an airfield near St. Louis.

The Convertiplane is looked upon as an important advance in aviation. It may make civilian air transportation easier in the future as the Convertiplane gets more and more perfected.

FASTER EVERY DAY

A DC-6 American plane carrying 41 passengers and a crew of five flew from New York to San Francisco in the record time of 7 hours and 48 minutes.

The distance is 3000 miles. The previous record for commercial airlines was set up in May 1955 with a time of 8 hours and 17 minutes.

HIGHER EVERY DAY

Commander Nicholas Goodheart of the British Royal Navy is reported to have set a new altitude record in single-seat gliding, reaching a height of 37,000 feet.

TWO MORE MONEYMAKERS

Two wonder drugs have been developed by the Shell Chemical Corporation, U.S., to fight insect pests in fields, homes and gardens. The research lasted for six years and cost $1,500,000.

The insecticides are aldrin and dieldrin and can be applied in the form of dusts, sprays, liquids, etc. Or they can be put into the ground with the fertilizer. They kill bugs, mosquitoes, locusts, etc.

One form of dieldrin masked by lacquer brings out the cockroach from its hiding place. Its toxic property lasts for more than two years.

Aldrin and dieldrin are sold under trade names like Black Leaf, Ortho, Real Kill, Lawntrol and Acme. In Iran, locusts were killed with the American aldrin and now it is being tried in Iran and Pakistan where they hope to kill the old cockroaches in the Cabinet. The insecticides are named after two German Nobel Prize winners.

PHILIPS ON THE MARCH

Messrs. Philips Electrical Company (India) Ltd., celebrated their silver jubilee in a fitting manner in the month of May. With very modest beginnings when their salesmen literally carried their wares in the market place, Philips today is one of the best organized companies with branches all over India—Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Lucknow, Madras.

Apart from supplying incandescent lamps for a hundred different purposes, amplifiers, loudspeakers, tape recorders, transmitting installations for broadcasting, radar and microwave equipment, radios, etc., Philips were the first to introduce television in India.

At the Government Engineering College, Jubbulpore, Philips installed recently a closed circuit television. The apparatus in use consists of a television camera, a Monitor and three "slave" units which are domestic type television receivers. The Philips closed circuit television system uses a non interlaced system of scanning using 312 lines. In Europe 625 lines are used, in England 405, in U.S.A., 525 and in some parts of France 819.

A couple of television sets were on view at the exhibition held in Bombay on the occasion of Philips' silver jubilee. They excited curiosity in the spectator, television still being unknown to us. Anyway the day is not far off when television will become a reality in India and bring to us the wry faces of some of the white-capped ministers.

BRIDGING DISTANCE

A new facsimile system, for flashing library data to atomic laboratories even eight miles away, has been developed by the Radio Corporation of America.

This system incidentally avoids the risk of making books radioactive.

Though the mechanism is complicated, in actual operation of the new system, the receiver has only to be turned on, then the facsimile rolls out, dry and ready to be used, while the copy itself is being "read" in the transmitter.

AIDING HUMAN EYE

The U.S. Columbia Broadcasting System Laboratories

SPARE TIME INCOME FOR WOMEN

Those women, who have ideas and can draw them on paper and in doing so tell their neighbours how to dress and look smart, can send their ideas and sketches to us and get paid for them. We invite sketches and articles on everything that women do, undo or should do, or wear, don't wear or should wear. And we pay well for these. And we can, if necessary, keep the name a family secret. Write today to: The Editor, Filmindia, Fort, Bombay.

The mother was so worried. Her baby wasn't gaining weight as he should have done. He was restless at night, so peevish by day.
Then her sister recommended 'Glaxo'. Her baby was progressing so well on 'Glaxo'... was always so happy.
SUNSHINE
Glaxo
'Glaxo' is a pure nourishing milk food to which Vitamin D has been added to build strong bones and teeth; and iron to enrich the blood.
Mother has no worries now. Baby eats well, sleeps well, and is steadily gaining weight. What a wonderful difference since she put him on to 'Glaxo'!
Glaxo
THE PUREST MILK-FOOD FOR BABIES
For a free copy of The Glaxo Baby Book send 6 annas in Stamps to 'Glaxo' Dept. G., Worli, Bombay 18.

Meena Kumari in "Azaad", a romantic tale.

have developed a new type of microscope in which can be seen even living cells enlarged up to 15,000 times. Another feature of the microscope is that it provides instantaneously and in colour, images 100 times brighter than were possible before. This is done with less light projected on the specimen under observation.

Projection of the magnified image on a screen for teaching or on a television screen for consultation between a surgeon and a pathologist, while an operation is in progress, is possible.

CONCENTRATED STUFF

The Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore has developed a new kind of nutritious food, consisting of a mixture of groundnut, sesame and soya bean cake flours, after four years of extensive research. The nutritive value of this food was first studied on albino rats and later on children and adults.

Prof. K. V. Giri, head of the Department of Biochemistry, said that this could be taken either as a supplement to the daily meal or as a full meal in times of emergency. It would be particularly useful for the poorer classes who don't get more than 1500 to 2000 calories daily.

The Meals For Millions Foundation of U.S. gave a grant to the Indian Institute of Science for field trials of the new food at different places in India. The new Indian food is said to be as good as the American multi-purpose food.

BROAD VIEW

A remarkable photograph of New York's waterfront taken by an American inventor, Luis Azarraga, created a sensation when it was published in American and British papers.

The photograph which shows more than 6 miles of the landscape was taken on one exposure with a camera — the Cameraman — and a lens angle of 160 degrees from a helicopter. The usual wide-angle-lens camera covers half the view, 80 degrees, while the average press camera lens covers between 50 and 55 degrees.

ONE MORE BARK

The last of the 1955 nuclear explosion tests at Yucca, Las Vegas, U.S., was over on May 15. The 14th and final nuclear explosion tests showed the brightest flash, brighter than even the powerful blast of May 5.

The huge clouds of the explosion rose rapidly to more than 40,000 feet.

Let us rest for some time before we hear of more nuclear explosions.

POISONING WATER

The U.S. Government announced the successful explosion of a small nuclear device under water in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

FREE INSURANCE SERVICE

Quite a few frauds have been discovered recently in some of our insurance companies. Quite a few companies are on the brink of disaster. It is, therefore, necessary to advise our readers on the choice of a safe and economic company for their life policies.

Every reader who wants to insure himself or who is already insured and wants to know about the present status and stability of the company he is insured with so that he can either surrender or pay up his policy to save his neck from being squeezed further, can write to the "Insurance Department", Filmindia, Fort, Bombay, to get free advice.

The following particulars are required: 1. Name and age 2. Present income 3. Type of work done 4. Family responsibilities 5. Amount of saving intended 6. Any personal particulars.

This is a strictly personal and confidential service. Enclose two-anna stamps for inland postage or suitable foreign postage for reply, without which no letter will be attended to.

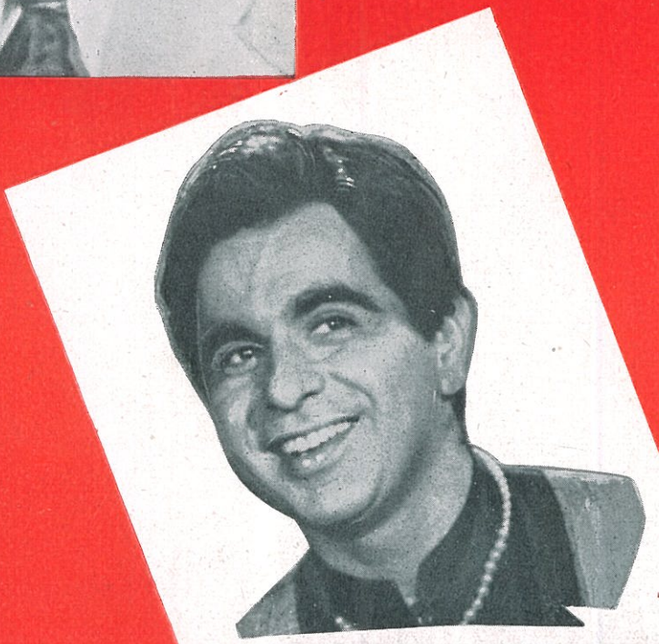
NALINI JAYWANT—

Cats don't think, they just watch. But when women pose like cats, they watch and think together. The thoughts of this one seem sad and there is a touch of disappointment in them. Let us see what ails Nalini Jaywant in "Fifty Fifty", a social story directed and produced by Roshanlal Malhotra for Roopnagar.

Producer-Director S. M. S. NAIDU

THERE NEVER HAS B
WHO ENTERTAINED TH
IN SUCH A MA

Dilip Kumar & Meena Kumari



In

Pakshiraja's
AZAAD

Music
C. RAMCHANDRA

Lyrics
RAJENDRA KRISHNA

AT A HUNDRED THEATR

ALL IN THR

EEN A PRODUCER LIKE THIS
HE PEOPLE & HELPED THE NATION
GNIFICENT MANNER

How He Entertained the People

Circuit	Weeks	Gross Collections
BENGAL	12	Rs. 8,98,544 - 0 - 6
DELHI, U.P., JULLUNDUR	11	Rs. 12,69,229 -10- 0
BOMBAY	10	Rs. 10,56,298 - 4 - 6
JAIPUR	9	Rs. 65,264 -10- 0
SECUNDERA-BAD	8	Rs. 1,02,421-11-11
BHUSAWAL	8	Rs. 3,02,111 - 2 - 6
GAUHATI	5	Rs. 84,500 -14- 6
SOUTH	4	Rs. 1,27,915 -12- 0

That is a Grand Total of

Rs. 39,06,296 - 1 - 11

And What He Gave To Our 5-Year Plan

Circuit	Entertainment Tax
BENGAL	Rs. 2,33,080 - 6 - 5
DELHI, U.P., JULLUNDER	Rs. 3,07,746 -11- 6
BOMBAY	Rs. 2,76,110 - 5 - 3
JAIPUR	Rs. 10,393 -15- 6
SECUNDERABAD	Rs. 15,119 - 0 - 1
BHUSAWAL	Rs. 66,548 - 9 - 3
GAUHATI	Rs. 18,616 - 8 - 0
SOUTH	Rs. 23,879 - 8 - 4

That is a Grand Total of

Rs. 9,51,495 - 0 - 4

One Man's Contribution To The Nation

JUST IMAGINE !

OM PRAKASH

PRAN

SHAMMI

BADRI PRASAD

ACHLA

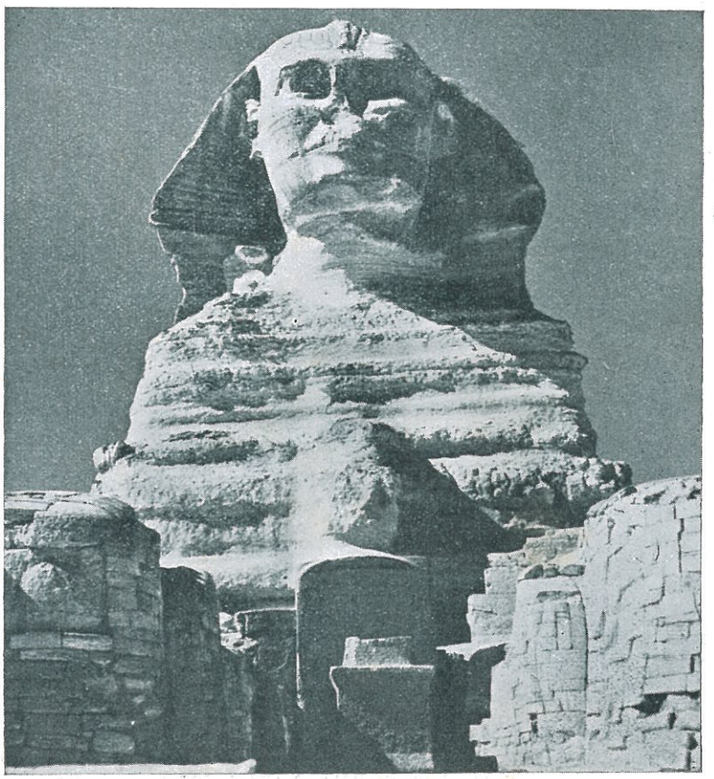
RES ALL OVER INDIA

EE MONTHS

BINA RAI—

Youth is an anxious time because it has dreams which slip out of the hand like quicksands. Here is one trying to catch them. She is Bina Rai, one of our top stars. She will once again be seen in "Madh Bhare Nain", a thrilling romance directed by Hem Chunder and produced by Fortune Films.

CAIRO
THE CRADLE OF HISTORY



The Sphinx—only 4855 years old—a sentinel of Egyptian history. What has it not seen? It has seen the Nile go red with human blood and flesh abused in human bed.

The oldest citizen of Cairo is exactly 4855 years old today. He lives a few miles from Cairo. He was born in 2900 B.C. He measures 150 feet in length, 70 feet in height and 14 feet from ear to ear. He has watched the Nile flow—its waters often red with human blood, the ink in which human history has been written since Cain murdered his brother Abel.

He has seen the immortal Pharoahs come and go. He has seen Tutankhamen and Nefertiti, Rameses and Seti, and many other Pharoahs trying to perpetuate their dynasties by incestuous marriages with their sisters. And he has seen their mummified bodies being taken to the Pyramids with gay-coloured Egyptian priests chanting magic mantras. He saw Cleopatra become the mistress of Caesar, saw her murder her husband and put her son on the throne. And he wondered as he saw Mark Antony going to bed with Cleopatra, but not for long, for Cleopatra soon delivered twins and continued to chase Antony till ultimately she killed herself. And he saw great cities like Memphis and Thebes rising to glory and then ending their careers in dust and ruins. He saw Arabs, Turks, and Mamelukes conquer and disappear. And for a while he thought the French and the British had come to stay. But he saw them go too.

And with the silent curiosity, characteristic of his age and patience, he even followed the Italian pimp and barber Antonio Pulli and entered the bedroom of Ex-King Farouk to see the fat and vicious profligate operate with his toes a blue cinema projector to see on the ceiling and wall his earlier exercises as he shifted his weight over the tender bodies of his new victims in bed. And he counted the dead bodies of the husbands, whom Farouk got murdered through Ali Asani, merely to bring their wives to his own bed of lust and violence. And wondering more about man's capacity for devilry he patiently went through Farouk's four palaces, hotels, restaurants, opium dens, brothels, gambling dens and was not shocked to discover a rare collection of coins, diamonds, golden bathtubs, pinball machines and other toys which kings collect from their people. He had seen the Pharoahs do this and more but he still thought that Farouk set up an all-time record for infamy which cannot be excelled by any monarch in Egyptian history.

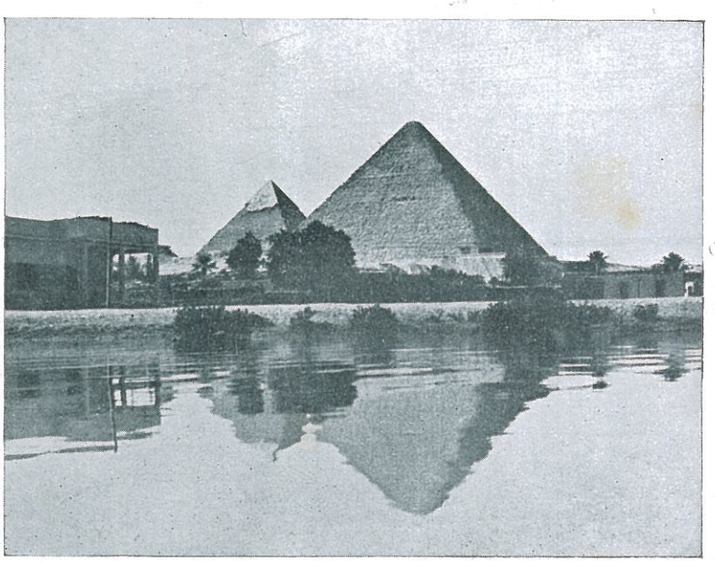
Then on July 26, 1952, he saw Nemesis in action. That Nemesis had a compound spelling: Neguib-Nasser. He saw Farouk being kicked out of Egypt leaving behind his wine, wealth and women and once again narrowed his aged eyes and wondered about the future of his square-shaped country of 386,000 square miles with a population of 20 million strong and handsome people.

HE WINKED ONCE

The name of that ancient citizen, who didn't bat his eyes through 48 centuries as human beings turned old pages of history and wrote new ones in blood and bondage, is the Sphinx. But he did wink once when Pandit Nehru visited Cairo and talked of peace and Panchshila. He looked at the little Indian and wondered why this tiny tot wasted millions of words every year on an olive branch which had drawn more blood out of the human veins than the thorns of Acacia Arabica (Akakia), for, he had seen more human blood flow in the Nile than water through 48 centuries of human search for peace.

Cairo is the home-town of the Sphinx and the capital of Egypt, the land where Cleopatra appeared as Aphrodite in a vessel magnificently adorned to seduce Mark Antony and where Narriman, a 19-year old girl, became a queen overnight.

The builders of the Pyramids, the underdogs of ancient Egypt —those who swore and sweated in silence to build immortal tombs on the mortal remains of the Pharoahs, men who broke their backs under blocks of alabaster that imprisoned God in impressive mosques, people who collected the milk of asses for Cleopatra to make her skin more acceptable to the lusty eyes of Caesar and Antony— have now

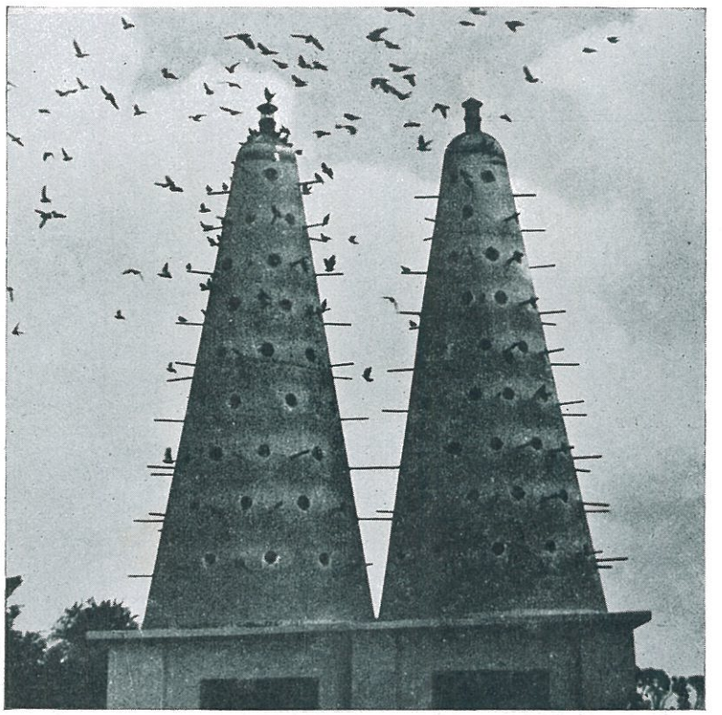


The Pyramids by the Nile—immortal tombs of the mortal remains of the Pharoahs. Their tombs survived their reputations and in doing so have become the monuments of the lust and incest of the Pharoahs.

come into their own after 6000 years of Egypt's history of their bondage and torture. The new sun they see on their horizon is 37-year old Lt. Col. Gamel Abd El-Nasser.

Now, as a result of the "Revolution by Accident", the underdog is having the time of his life. The desert is being pushed back and strawberries are induced to grow in places where no man's footprint could be planted for centuries. Confiscated royal lands are being redistributed. Furnished houses for working classes and 14-storied buildings are being raised as if out of the magic wand. Clean drinking water is made available. Jobs by thousands for skilled and semi-skilled workers are being provided in new projects like the Aswan Dam, the steel plant near Cairo, the oil refinery near the Suez, and the fertilizer plant. University doors are being opened and as many as 70% of the students are offered freeships. Beys and Pashas have disappeared. Sycophants and pimps, criminals and gamblers are being liquidated. And former "leaders" of the country, who fattened on the labours of the millions, are being hauled up in courts on charges of blackmarketing, favouritism, nepotism, and personal aggrandisement. Yet, Premier Nasser has described all these changes as belonging only to "the reconnaissance phase" and nothing more, indicating thereby that more real and substantial reforms are yet to come.

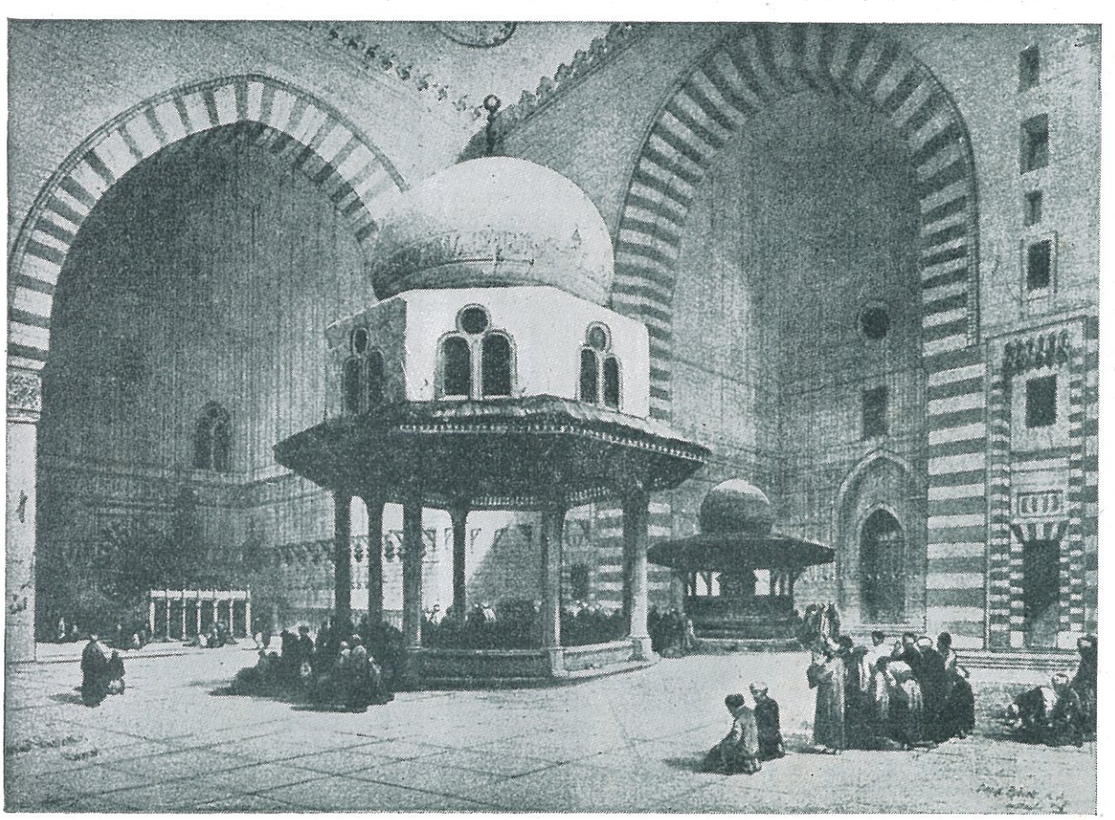
Ever since July 23, 1952, when the coup d'etat engineered by Gen. Neguib and Lt. Col. Nasser led to the abdication of King Farouk and consequent declaration of Egypt as a republic, new blood has entered the dried up ancient veins of the Egyptians. This ancient land which once knew how to manufacture paper from papyrus reeds, cast calendars from sun-dials, and mummify dead bodies had become the vast land of the dead, where the living made a living from visitors who came to see the living rooms of the dead and where the discovery of anything that was dead and moribund made the world look at it twice. But it was in this land that Moses the law-giver and the G.O.M. of the Bible was found among the bulrushes. It was near the Mosque Ibn Tulun at Cairo that the Christian God is said to have revealed himself to Moses. It was the land where the Pharoah's wife tried to seduce Joseph, whose line of descent ended up with Jesus Christ. It was here that the Crusaders and Saracens fought as did the French and the British during and after the Napoleonic period.



The pigeons have always been the favourites of Muslims. Here is a couple of special pigeon-houses from where couriers went carrying messages of love to sweethearts.

6000 YEARS OF HISTORY

Go where you will, you can find relics of the past 6000 years and more. At Sakkra is the oldest Pyramid. At Gizeh is the largest Pyramid built by Cheops in 3000 B.C. measuring 481 feet in height and spread over 13 acres. On River Nile near Roda Island is the Nilometer used to measure the level of the water, and it is at this place that Moses was found in the bulrushes. The El Azhar University founded in 972 A.D. is still alive with 10,000 students on its rolls. The Citadel on the Jebel Mokattam hill range is a standing testimony of the architectural interests of Saladin. There are over 200 mosques and tombs in the city of Cairo alone, a careful study of which may take a lifetime and a cursory visit to some may afford flash-backs into Islamic history. At Alexandria was the celebrated library of the ancient world because it was the centre for scholars who discovered algebra



The fountain for ablutions and the sanctuary in the Mosque of Sultan Hassan. It was built with the materials taken from the Pyramids.

After they kicked out Farouk, the Egyptians built this multi-storied government building in Tehrir Square.

and perfected hieroglyphics. In the region of Karnak and Luxor of today was Thebes famed for its Valley of the Tombs and Kings, and for the Hall of Columns that had 140 columns in 16 rows, each column measuring 78 feet.

Cairo, stretching over 80 square miles, has within its precincts relics of many centuries that jostle with modern buildings. The huge domes and towering minarets contrast with the neon lights atop modern 14-storied buildings. And the relics of the whole country can be found in the various museums.

In Old Cairo, known as El Fostat are situated the Mosques of Amur (7th century), Ibn Tulum (9th century) Hasan (14th century) and of Kair Bey (15th century), the tombs of Kair Bey, Sultan Barkuk, and of El Ashraf Burshey, and the El Azhar University, which has its own mosque. Coptic, Greek Orthodox and churches of other denominations can be also found jostling alongside the mosques and tombs. El Fostat is a quaint old city by itself with its twisting narrow streets, three and four-storied houses with barred windows and balconies, and flat roofs. The open-air shops, market places and the Babel of tongues mark this out as separate from Ismailiyeh, the European part, which is centred round the Ezbekiyeh Garden that stretches over 20 acres. Boulevard Mehemet Ali and Muski, the chief business street, are the chief rendezvous. But visitors from Europe and America derive greater pleasure in idling away time in the bazars of Old Cairo —the Khan-el-Khalili, the Hamzawi and the bazars of goldsmiths, brassware merchants and tapestry dealers.

The erudite and the history-minded can glimpse Egyptian history by going to the Museum of Antiquities, the Arab Museum, the Royal Library and the Library of the El Azhar. The ups and downs of Egyptian history can be noticed even with casual visits. Such of those who believe in tramping through foreign cities can make an excellent pastime of this by going to Roda Island on the Nile, to Bulaq, the port of Cairo on the Nile, to the famous zoo near the Gizeh Pyramids, and to the Citadel. It is from the Citadel that one can have a grand panoramic view of the city that was founded by Johar, a general of the Tunisian Fatimite dynasty in the seventh century, and named El Quirah, the City Victorious.

HE PLAYED, THEY BUILT

Tourists of today are privileged indeed to have a close look at the stupidly wasteful way the Egyptian royalty had lived. The Republican Government has thrown open the doors of the Abdin Palace, the Ismailia Palace and the Kasr-el-tin Palace, with the idea of showing to everybody how the royalty did not deserve to rule over the people. For in these palaces can be found evidences of the degenerate and decadent tastes of the Egyptian monarchs. And among them, the fat ex-king Farouk was the most unabashed voluptuary and gross sensualist. Farouk was not merely the King of Egypt but also the King of Vice.

While Farouk went on gallivanting about in the Riviera after abdication, the erstwhile military officers opened a shop of his ill-gotten collection and auctioned off his collections of coins, stamps and objects d'art. Out of the money realized thus, village centres were started. Hospitals, schools, creches, reading rooms, etc., were built for villagers, and thus what was taken from the poor was returned to them.

During the two years since Egypt was declared a republic,

Till yesterday the living Egyptians earned a living by telling stories of the dead Egyptians. Here is an American girl on camel taking her dose of Egyptology from an Egyptian hostess.

The Egyptians were good at ceramics. Here is a dish with tulips, carnations, peonies with ammonite border.

vast socio-economic changes have happened. Prostitution has been made illegal. The possession of even a pin-head of hashish or opium has been made punishable with a three-year term. Black marketeers have been sent to prison or to death. Luxury goods have been taxed up to 100%.

The most phenomenal change accomplished by the military junta has been the abolition of landlordism. In a country where 80% live on agriculture, out of a total cultivated area of 5,975,000 feddans (roughly a feddan is an acre) over one-fourth of the land was in the hands of 1770 landlords, including 200 members of the royal household, who controlled 196,000 feddans. On January 1, 1953, by a mere stroke of the pen, the ceiling of 200 acres was fixed and all those who had more than that had to turn over the land to the government or sell away. Compensation was paid by the government in the form of bonds redeemable in 30 years' time. Plots of land not less than two feddans and not more than five feddans were sold to the landless on instalment basis, the instalments stretching over 30 years.

Alongside the land acquisition and re-distribution, reclamation work was also started. Deserts are being changed into habitable places. The waters of the Nile are being used to fertilise the soil. New canals are being dug for this purpose. The Liberation provinces of Al Tehrir and of Umar Shabir have been created for ex-army personnel, university and school students and people well-versed in agronomy and animal husbandry. All types of inducements are offered so that they can live with new spirit. Only healthy people between the ages of 23 and 36, with no in-

See this glorious vase. It has palmettes flanked by serrated leaves and pomegranate blossoms. What they used it for you can guess, but don't miss its rare beauty.

Here is one with a vase in the centre with arabesques, surrounded by a fishscale border.

laws, are allowed to settle in these Provinces. Women are to wear European dress and take part in sports and military activities. Thus, a new type of an Egyptian is now in the cradle of history.

THE SPHINX WILL SPEAK

Alongside rural development, the industrial pace is also being quickened. The nationalised Bank Misr is controlling 24 industrial and commercial establishments including the Mehalla El Khubra textile mills which employs 15000 workers, the oil refinery near Suez, and the Aswan Hydro-electric Project. The High Aswan Dam, when completed will provide enough water for 2 million acres and yield 10000 million kws. of electricity. The steel plant to be set up by the German firm of Demag will provide steel that Egypt needs. And, the fertilizer plant not only provides fertilizers for the peasants but also livelihood for hundreds of industrial workers.

The young army officers are always concentrating their attention on the provision of all types of services to the people—from drinkable water to educational

(Continued on page 70)

This beautiful dish shows an ewer with arabesques, surrounded by an ammonite border.

While this one has snails creeping over serrated leaves—a fantastic conception. But then that is Egypt.

That is an age of curves and women take full advantage of it by displaying them in circles. These circles are called a dance and under the guise of this art, women try to make themselves a more tantalizing proposition. Meet this charmer, Shakila, in "Shahi Chor", the story of a royal thief in which this siren steals more hearts than any one else.

STRICTER CENSORSHIP

New Delhi, May 18.

Sixty-four Members of Parliament made a representation before the Congress Working Committee urging stricter censorship of films. Their complaint was that even Indian film producers gave entertainment in their films and exploited it for the greatest amount of profit regardless of social consequences. They said, "Indian producers have all along tended to copy American producers and their methods. The type of films that have been produced during the past decade has been more and more a sexual parody and the glorification of crime in large numbers". These M.P.'s were worried over the effect of films particularly on adolescents.

The Congress Working Committee met on May 4 and discussed the issue thoroughly. The views were expressed in a letter by Mr. Shriman Narayan, General Secretary of the Congress, to Dr. Keskar.

The Congress Working Committee is of the view that "rules and regulations regarding the censorship of films should be more strictly enforced. It feels that censorship should be applied at the script stage in order to avoid unnecessary complications and wastage of money at a later stage. The members of Film Censor Boards should be selected more carefully so that they may constantly keep in view the probable effect of films on the morals of the people, particularly those of young men and women".

We wish the M.P.s were more specific in their charges levelled against Indian films. At the moment they have indulged in vague generalizations and armchair theorizing forgetting the fundamental fact that all pictures exhibited to the public have been previously passed by the Central Board of Film Censors. They have thus condemned the present members of the Censor Board.

MARRIED MONEY

Las Vegas, May 10.

Well-known Hollywood actress Joan Crawford, 47, married Mr. Alfred Steels, president of the Pepsi Cola Company, at Las Vegas.

The marriage came as a surprise to many and took place in a Las Vegas Hotel.

Alfred is Joan's fourth husband. Her previous husbands were Douglas Fairbanks Jnr., Franchot Tone and Philip Terry, all actors.

Let us hope the steel part of Steels helps the old girl to make a happy home.

In a woman youth is spring which makes a man spring up and celebrate the season. And for a while the world-beater forgets his worries and allows himself to be lost in the gaieties of life. Here is a moment of bliss between Hiralal and Roopmala in "Roop Basant", a romantic story.

ONE LESS

Aurangabad, May 14.

A fire broke out in the Aziz Talkies, Jalna City, reducing the cinema to ashes. The damage is estimated at Rs. 75,000.

The fire brigade put out the fire. The cause of the fire is not known.

HER FOURTH BED

London, May 16.

Actress Paulette Goddard, 44, will soon marry German-born author Erich Maria Remarque, 57, at Rome.

Erich Maria Remarque's novel, "All Quiet on the Western Front" was a best-seller and was picturized by Hollywood in the silent days. Erich was exiled from Germany. He took American citizenship in 1947. His recent books include "Arch of Triumph" and "Spark of Life".

Vivacious Paulette has had three husbands so far—the famous Charlie Chaplin, Edgar James, a timber millionaire and film actor Burgess Meredith. Ex-husband Charlie sent congratulations to Paulette on hearing the news of her impending marriage.

DESERVES IT

Calcutta, May 12.

An angry audience set fire to a cinema house in Serampore because the projector went out of order during the show.

Some wanted a refund of their ticket money and when the management refused, they threw stones and brickbats and set fire to the cinema. The fire was put out but not before considerable damage was done.

The police arrested fifteen persons in this connection. This shows that people want more efficient showmanship as value for their money.

USELESS AWARDS

Cannes, May 12.

"Marty", a Hecht-Lancaster production released by United Artists starring Ernest Borgnine and Betsy Blair, won the Golden Palm of the 1955 Cannes International Festival. "Lost Continent", an Italian film, was awarded the Festival's special prize. Spencer Tracy, the popular Hollywood star was considered the best actor for his topping performance in "Bad Day At Black Rock".

India had entered two feature films, "Biraj Bahu" and "Boot Polish" and two documentaries, "Symphony of Life" and "Golden River". They did not get any awards but special mention was made of Baby Naaz for her fine portrayal in "Boot Polish".

French film producer Michael Safra wanted "Black Dossier" to be withdrawn from the International Film Festival, alleging that at least four members of the jury drank too much vodka and slept through the films. That sounds quite interesting! In any case, the awards are forgotten the very next day after the Festival.

STAR HUNTER

London, May 17.

Playboy Prince Aly Khan, who has plenty of leisure and plenty of money to burn, has again been coupled with Diana Wynter, Rhodesian-born film star, in newspapers but he doesn't seem to have met with any luck so far.

A news report said that Aly Khan saw Diana at a dinner given in his honour by Ray Stark. Aly asked Stark to bring her over to sit next to him but Miss Wynter refused and cleverly avoided dancing with Aly Khan all the evening.

The report also said that Aly Khan dated several Nordic blondes. Diana seems to be a sure shikar of Aly, judging from her apparent indifference.

CATHOLIC BAN

Rome, May 17.

The Italian Catholic Film Centre has forbidden Catholics to see "Madame Du Barry" because of its "negative plot and indecent scenes".

"Madame Du Barry" stars Martine Carol and has been directed by her husband, Christian Jaque. It is about the life of Du Barry, the notorious mistress of Louis XV, the French monarch.

WHO'S COMPLAINING?

Madras, May 24.

Female artistes of South India have suddenly realised that there is a 'yellow press' that defames and vilifies them. Clutching at this fear, members of the fair sex belonging to the South Indian Film Artistes Association met and adopted a resolution demanding that shooting of films be stopped in this country after 10 p.m. as is the practice in Western countries. If shooting after the prohibited hour became a necessity, then the actresses urged, that it should be confined to the portions of the films in which the actors alone had to play.

Another resolution urged the Government to deal severely with the 'yellow press' which vilified actresses. It also appealed to the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference to take action against the offenders.

These touchy actresses would do well to remember the Old Testament maxim "Set thine house in order", seeing that some of these actresses so often turn daylight into moonlight for their gambols.

BACK TO BUSINESS

Hollywood, May 22.

Red-haired actress Linda Christian secured a divorce from Hubby Tyrone Power, custody of their two children and more than 1 million dollars in the property settlement.

The court granted divorce because Tyrone "nagged" her for more than two years for his marital liberty. Linda flew to London a week after winning the divorce suit. But the million dollars didn't bring a smile on her face. Said Linda: "It's a polite gesture one does in California. I didn't really want the million—it's all so taxable".

Some time ago Linda was sued by Van Cleef and Arpels for the return of valuable jewellery worth $1,32,500 presented to her by Robert Schlesinger when his cheque bounced from the bank. But Linda clung to them for dear life.

FOLLOWING "FILMINDIA"

Bombay, May 24.

The Five-Year-Plan Publicity Department under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, seems to have got going. An ambitious scheme to publicise the Five-Year-Plan and other development works has been prepared in which artistes, dramatists, writers, poets, singers, "kirtankars", "Shahirs" and folk-song singers will participate.

The Government will pay Rs. 1000 to every drama approved and accepted by the department for staging under its auspices. Similarly a "kirtankar" will be paid Rs. 250 per month for giving at least ten "kirtans" every month in the villages. The Five-Year-Plan will thus be explained to the people in an attractive and entertaining manner as suggested by "filmindia" through songs, dance, drama, poetry, etc. in the editorial "Our Second Suicide" in February 1955. That is the only way of getting the people's co-operation.

PAUL WANTED

New York, May 14.

Paul Robeson, famous Negro singer, has been offered the leading role in "Othello" to be made in Moscow by Mosfilm Studio. He has applied for his passport but the authorities are still adamant. In fact, owing to Paul Robeson's leftist leanings, his passport application has been put on the shelf for the last five years.

CRIME

Vienna, May 20.

A wooden theatre in the Polish town of Wielocole-Skrzynskie caught fire killing fifty-eight adults and children.

The capacity of the theatre was 89 but more than 200 people were jammed in, the only exit being one door near the projection booth, where the fire broke out.

Four Communists in charge of the theatre have been arrested "for neglecting basic safety precautions".

REJECTED AFTER SAMPLING

Hollywood, May 16.

Hungarian-born actress Zsa Zsa Gabor, who always has some spicy things to say, has given up the idea of marrying Porfirio Rubirosa. Porfirio recently got a divorce from Barbara Hutton, America's five and dime heiress.

Siad Zsa Zsa: "None of my ex-husbands ever married again. After they've married me, they've had it." But Porfirio seems to have 'had it' even before going through the conventional shackles of marriage. Probably Zsa Zsa did not like the man's botanical name. She didn't want a herb, she wanted a worm.

SPREADING IN JAPAN

Tokyo, May 21.

With American crime and sex films having an easy passage in many countries, including Japan, the Japanese film industry found it necessary to form a 24-member Juvenile Film Committee to look after the interests of Japanese teenagers. Thanks to Filmindia's campaign among Japanese readers!

The Committee was inaugurated on May 4, with Iwao Takashima, a member of the Central Council of Juvenile Welfare, as its chairman and Yoshio Sekino, an expert in educational films, as vice-chairman.

The committee will recommend pictures for youths only if they are found suitable.

CALLING COMMISSIONER NAYAK

Sholapur, May 22.

Open-air theatres are slowly springing up in different parts of India. The Sholapur municipality budget has earmarked a sum of Rs. 65,000 for the construction of an open-air theatre along with its other provisions.

Open-air theatres have already started functioning in Satara, Baroda, Ahmedabad, etc. But the Municipality of Bombay still can't make up its mind about the open-air theatre. We have heard a lot about it but it is still in the air and not

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A man's breakfast is a woman's problem. Most of them want it in their bed. Anjali adds grace to the indigestable stuff she is carrying in "Naya Admi", a romantic tale of domestic life.

on solid earth. Municipal Commissioner Nayak must fulfil this promise soon.

SHOWING OFF

Hollywood, May 10.

Popular Hollywood actor Marlon Brando thrives on publicity of his eccentricities. As if his agents were not enough, he has now his charming fiancee Josane to dish them out to his hungry fans and admirers.

Said Josane: "Marlon—who hates noises—usually carries small ear plugs for train travelling. This time he'd forgotten them. So he bought a sandwich and plugged his ears with bread. He slept all the way. But the next morning, we discovered the bread had dried—and he not only couldn't get it out but it was hurting him. I took him to a doctor."

Our hero, Dilip Kumar, is also cultivating new eccentricities to look like Marlon, his present ideal. We suggest his closing his eyes to Madhubala's pimples whenever the vision flits past him.

ANGLING IN CANNES

Hollywood, May 20.

Grace Kelly, the current rage of Hollywood, attended the Cannes Film festival. Constantly chaperoning her was French actor Jean-Pierre Aumont.

Says Aumont: "I adore her. Any man would be proud to marry Grace. She is a wonderful woman."

Aumont's wife Maria Montez, well-known actress, died in 1951. Aumont has thrown a flattering feeler. Let us see if Grace nibbles at it.

HITTING BACK

London, May 19.

The British film "Carrington V.C." which was to be called "Court Martial" for U.S., has met with trouble from the censors in America. It has not yet got a Production Code seal from the Motion Picture Producers' Association of America.

The Association has objected to a basic scene in the plot and the distributor has refused to effect the cut.

It seems to be a retaliatory measure from the Yankee because British censors always frown on crime and violence in American pictures.

A British columnist wrote, "The scene they are objecting to involves a basic plot situation that is brought out in the dialogue. Hundreds of American pictures have gone far beyond this".

"Carrington V.C." is a big hit in Britain and Hollywood producers are afraid it will hit them in America.

EXPENSIVE DEATH

Bombay, May 13.

Vishwambhar, a 25-year-old dancer, died suddenly on the sets of G. P. Sippy's "Marine Drive" while rehearsing a dance at the M. & T. Studios, Andheri.

The shooting of "Marine Drive" was suspended for two days as a mark of respect to young Vishwambhar.

That makes G. P. Sippy liable for legal compensation.

REVIVING THE PAST

Bonn, May 30.

The Berlin Film Festival is being held at Berlin from June 24 to July 5. More than 20 nations are participating in the Festival.

An interesting feature of the Festival will be the presentation of some old films which were once milestones in motion picture history, including some famous silent films.

PAYING JOBS

Hollywood, May 28.

We often hear glamorous stories about film stars in Hollywood. But there is also an important tribe known as 'extras' in Hollywood who contribute their bit when it comes to mob scenes, grim battles, horse-riding, etc. With spectacle films more and more in demand, these extras earn quite well.

Hollywood has a Central Casting Department where 5000 extras are registerd. They are paid from 17 to 70 dollars per day according to the nature of the work. Some of the extras make a living by working elsewhere when they are not needed.

MURDEROUS DEVIL

New York, May 20.

The harvest that horror comics are reaping in America is a national scandal.

David Drew, a 14-year-old boy, was arrested by the Oakland police on charge of allegedly butchering his 7-year-old playmate with a hatchet and knife. When questioned, David said that he got the idea "from reading those horror comics". He also admitted that the killing was intentional and not accidental.

Dr. Douglas Kelley, a psychiatrist, said that the accused boy was avidly fond of "comic books that depicted torture and throwing people off cliffs".

TALL TALKERS

Bombay, May 17.

The Film Writers' Association held its annual general meeting on May 15 with Pandit Sudarshan in the chair.

The annual report said that film writers were able to function in an organised way for the

first time, though it wanted more writers to take an active interest in the organisation.

The following office-bearers were elected: Secretary, Vishram Bedekar; Joint secretaries, Vishvamitra Adil and Arjun Dev Rashk; treasurer, Inder Raj Anand. The executive committee was to be elected after a new re-organisation committee had prepared a programme for the new team.

In spite of a Writers' Association, we don't find any great change in film stories. Plagiarism of popular Hollywood themes is still the fashion.

YANKEES SHOCKED

New York, May 15.

The French film "La Rage au Corps" ("Fire In The Flesh") has been held up by the American censors.

The story centres round the life of pretty Francoise Arnoul, a nymphomaniac, who makes love to many men working on a dam construction project. The film was considered to be bold, daring and immoral by the American censors.

In London "Fire In The Flesh" is running with an 'X' (Adults only) certificate.

COWS SMELLING BULLS

Hollywood, May 22.

Gossip columnists of Hollywood are again busy with Lana Turner, the charming star of a score of pictures.

Lana Turner and Hubby Lex Barker, they say, have had some differences with the result that Lana has been seeing a certain Mexican bull-fighter Carlos Arruza at Tijuana, on the U.S. Mexican border.

Film actress Ava Gardner was also interested for a while in bull-fighter Louis Dominguin from South America. They probably feel that bull-fighting makes men virile. Let us see what Lex "Tarzan" has to say.

ART FOR ITS SAKE

Stratford-on-Avon, May 30.

In contrast to the fabulous salaries earned by film stars in Hollywood, Shakespearean stage artistes earn modest sums but they are contented because they are devoted to a great, literary cause.

Sir Laurence Olivier and Lady Vivien Leigh, famous Shakespearean actors, are now performing Shakespearean plays at Warwickshire, more for the love of it than for the money it can fetch. Said Sir Laurence Olivier, "My wife and I are mainly interested in presenting Shakespeare's works as a tribute to his literary genius. One does not consider the financial remunerations involved".

The stage actors at Old Vic Theatre in London earn a little less than the Stratford actors which is £40 a week.

Sir Laurence Olivier has recently completed his third Shakespearean film "Richard III".

RECOVERED

Bombay, May 14.

Mr. N. M. Shah, Judge of the Small Causes Court, Bombay, ordered Filmistan to pay a sum of Rs. 6293 to D. C. Mehta, a cameraman, who filed a suit for the arrears of salary as per his agreement with Filmistan.

According to a clause in the agreement, the plaintiff was to be given an annual increment of Rs. 50 per month during the service period on each renewal of service. His services were extended but he was not paid increments, it was stated.

SOLID WORK

New Delhi, May 20.

The Films Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting released 242 documentary films and 341 newsreels from 1949, the year of its inception to March 31, 1955.

Usually a documentary film is 1000 feet with an average running time of 11 minutes but "India Independent" was the longest documentary film with 1873 feet depicting India's struggle for freedom. Documentaries are produced in Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu and English.

Quite a few documentaries like "Tree of Wealth", "Rajasthan I", "Private life of a Silkworm", etc. have won international awards. Last year, "Mahabalipuram" won the President's Gold Medal for the best documentary.

Though the documentaries of the Films Division, are fairly entertaining, the newsreels are far from interesting, white caps taking too much of screen time.

JAPAN vs AMERICA

Tokyo, May 22.

The Finance Ministry of Japan has decided to give facilities to foreign producers who have accumulated yen in Japan. The accumulated yen of foreign American companies was 3574 million yen at the end of March 1955.

Last year, 120 million yen were spent by Twentieth Century-Fox for location "shootings" of "House of Bamboo" in Japan while Columbia utilised 40 million yen for "Gentle Wolfhound".

It is high time India put some restrictions on the earnings of American and other foreign films in India. The blocked earnings can then be used either for location shooting or for joint Indo-American ventures. At the moment, the American film companies are having a gay time because of lack of restrictions on remittances.

HER BLUSHING HUSBAND

London May 25.

Dr. Mirko Skofic, Yugoslav-born husband of Italian film actress Gina Lollobrigida, took objection to a still photograph of Gina published in an Italian magazine from her film, "The World's Most Beautiful Woman". The still showed Gina in "cancan" costume wearing nylon scanties that almost disappeared in the flashlight photograph. Dr. Mirko wanted the negative to be returned to him.

The director of American Press Agency in Rome said that the photographs had been approved by the star. Dr. Mirko and the director had such hot arguments that the police had to interfere.

Most star husbands have to face these ticklish problems. Why not discuss it with Gina after dinner?

OLD FACES AGAIN

Bombay, May 20.

Seven members of the First Advisory Panel of the Central Board of Film Censors in Bombay retired with effect from May 1. They are, Mrs. Sarla Bannerjee, Mr. S. A. Kadar, Mrs. Urmila Mehta, Mrs. Manorama Phadke, Prof. Induprakash Pandey, Mrs. Leela Jog and Mr. Keshavlal M. Shah.

Four members out of these—Mr. S. A. Kadar, Mrs. Urmila Mehta, Prof. Pandey and Mrs. Leela Jog—were reappointed with effect from May 1.

Mr. M. D. Bhatt, former Chief Secretary of the Bombay Government, has been appointed Chairman of the Central Board of Censors.

UNREASONABLE RESTRICTION

Calcutta, May 23.

The Government of West Bengal has extended for another year the ban on construction of new cinemas. This ban was promulgated in 1948 owing to the shortage of essential materials.

A deputation of the Bengal Motion Picture Association led by Mr. Murli Dhar Chatterjee met Chief Minister B. C. Roy who promised to look into the matter.

In the legislative assembly, Chief Minister said that the Government would grant permission only for those places where the number of cinema houses was lower than the standard requirements.

USE WORLD'S MOST FAVOURITE CHOCOLATE LAXATIVE CASTOPHENE

If you get one like that in a dream, you would like to be sleeping for a week. For, who likes to break a beautiful spell, good dreams being few these days? This Rani is called Raja Sulochana with all those seductive curves and she plays a spy in that great romantic tale "Pennarasi", produced by M.A.V. Pictures.

THE CAKE BOTH WAYS

Hollywood, May 15.

Rita Hayworth refused to begin work on "Joseph And His Brethren", a Columbia picture. Her contract with Columbia started from March 8 and the picture, she said, didn't go on the sets on that date. Moreover she had to take her daughter Yasmin to Europe to meet Prince Aly and the Aga Khan under her divorce agreement on July 1, so she was not in a position to take up the work.

Rita has filed a suit in the Federal Court against Columbia to have her contract unbinding and leaving her free to "render services to anybody in any field of entertainment". Rita also wanted 150,000 dollars, the amount fixed for her role in "Joseph" while she had already drawn 75,000 dollars in advance.

Columbia said that Rita "has a flagrant disregard of contractual obligations. Columbia will enforce all its rights against Mrs. Haymes".

LOOK OUT CENSORS

Memphis, May 9.

Memphis censor Lloyd T. Binford banned "Blackboard Jungle" saying, "It is the vilest picture I have ever seen in 26 years as a censor".

"Blackboard Jungle" produced by M.G.M. is a picture on juvenile delinquency in a high school.

Our censors here should follow suit, considering it is a crime picture.

WESTREX LEADING

Hollywood, May 15.

Western Electric Recording Company of America, has had a distinguished career ever since its inception in 1926 when its equipment was used for recording the industry's first sound motion picture. In twenty-five years, Western Electric has won the Academy Award of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences twenty-two times for the best recording.

Today Westrex is a name known to millions all over the world. Westrex has 69 subsidiary company offices located in forty countries.

Westrex has all types of recording equipment—magnetic, photographic and disk. For large studios, Series 600 systems are ideal as they are flexible and simple to operate. For small studios, Series 500 systems are low-priced, lightweight and portable. Westrex has kept pace with all the advance in technique and machinery and that is why it is so popular.

SIDE BUSINESS

Bombay, June 5.

The Esplanade police arrested Keky S. Sethna, an employee of the Excelsior Theatre and two others on Tuesday, May 31, for allegedly selling bogus tickets for the cinema show at the theatre. They were produced before Mr. M. Nasrullah, Presidency Magistrate, Esplanade Court. The three arrested persons were remanded to custody.

On Wednesday, June 1, the Bombay C.I.D. seized more than 5000 semi-burnt forged cinema tickets in the vicinity of the Parsi Tower of Silence, Malabar Hill. The police also seized printing machinery, numbering machine and blocks for printing these tickets from Central Bombay.

On Saturday 4, the police also arrested Hormusji Pheroze shah Rutnagar, Supervising Manager, and charged him as being the "brain" behind the racket. It is alleged that he took the major part of the "booty". What the police should find out is where this major part of the booty was banked. The case promises interesting revelations.

Is that why our producers get less and less returns with every picture?

SILENT PROTEST

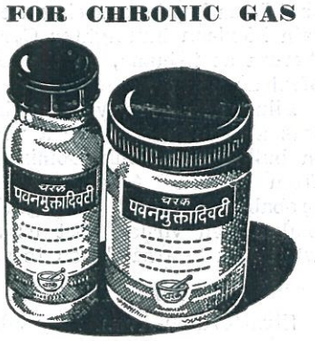
Ootacamund, June 1.

Twenty African students walked out of a show of M.G.M.'s "Mogambo" as a sign of protest against the depiction of African life "in a distorted and offensive manner" at a local cinema.

The African students were attending a summer camp sponsored by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations.

With the awakening of a new conscience, Africans are fast coming into their own.

FOR CHRONIC GAS



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OUR REVIEW

"Ha Ha Hi Hi Hoo Hoo" Is Noisy Comedy

Clownish Nonsense Fails to Click

These six interjectional syllables provide the title of a picture which is not much of a picture but rather the usual Santoshi brand of noise in celluloid consisting almost entirely of buffoonery and tomfoolery.

It is a wildly concocted broad comedy with abundant mirth and untraceable wit in which every character is turned into a clown, every incident into a funny event and every sound into song or laughter or nonsense. On the whole it is a crude, loud and generally silly comedy with little appeal to intelligent people, but it is a harmless entertainer which may provide momentary diversion to worried and frustrated people who would prefer mirthful noise to the frustrating din of life.

STUPID STORY

The story is a long, complicated, nonsensical affair revolving round a clownish idiot called Popatlal who is an "all-round commission agent" but specializing as a marriage broker and insurance agent. Four parties seek his services for arranging marriages and they happen to be two boys and two girls. One girl is Rupmati, the daughter of a millionaire and the other is Kamla, a poor girl whose father was a stage actor and who is friendly with a batch of ugly theatrical girls calling themselves 'Ha Ha Girls'. The two bachelors have one name, Kumar, one being a rich man and the other being a poor nephew of a debt-ridden uncle. While both the female parties happen to be interested in the well-to-do Kumar as a match, the idiotic Popatlal mixes up things and the humble Kumar arrives on the scene with great ambitions and to create greater confusion. This leads to continuous noise and a long series of complications which are resolved in the end with Rupmati marrying the rich Kumar and Kamla marrying his poor namesake.

CRUDE AND SILLY

The picture is too crude and silly to be interesting, but it is too noisy and furious to make one feel outright bored either.

The production values are average. Sets are not bad. Photography is fluctuatingly good and bad. Sound recording is erratic. The dialogue is fifty per cent noise, fifty per cent nonsense and zero per cent wit. Music is loud and hybrid. Technically the direction is not bad.

From the crowd of face-makers, all succeed in looking clowns whether they succeed in looking tolerable or not. Shyama plays Kamla and looks hideously familiar at places. Sajjan plays the poor Kumar and fails completely. Ranjana plays Rupmati, Radhakishan plays the debt-ridden uncle and others play other buffoons. The work they are called upon to do is easy and the way they do it is unimpressive.

In short, this stupidly titled picture is a sufferable mess of gay noise and nonsense.

Every "noo" one in this species brings new irritation to the eye and the heart. They are made in different models and finished in different paints—each one built to suit a certain design of Divinity. This one seems built for comfort. Meet Ranjana Shukla in "Chaar Deewaren", an ultra-modern social entertainer.

When things go wrong it is difficult to console them. Wealth and comfort mean nothing to them. They want a goat to play with and call the game romance. Vyjayantimala misses her goat in "Taj", a romantic tale.

HA HA HI HI HOO HOO

Producers:	Kamal Chitra
Language:	Hindustani
Story, Dialogue & Lyrics:	P. L. Santoshi
Music:	Vinod
Photography:	Bal Bapat and Nana Ponkshe
Sound:	Reuben Moses & Minoo Katrak
Cast:	Shyama, Sajjan, Radhakishen, Ranjana, Mirza Musharaf, etc.
Release At:	Kamal, Bombay
Date of Release:	27th May 1955

Directed By:
P. L. SANTOSHI

OUR REVIEW

"Mee Tulas Tuzhya Angani" Entertains

Good Story Value But Technically Modest

Nav Chitra's "Mee Tulas Tuzhya Angani" is a sensitive tale dealing with love, emotions, art and music, which is earnest in its tone, sincere in its approach and generally interesting in its portrayal. Its emotional drama is woven by bringing together two persons of different intellectual standards, different sexes, and different environments though their professions carry a crude identicalness and their hearts strong emotional beats. When the lives of these characters collide and their emotions kiss, their differences begin to melt and their attachment begins to mellow resulting in a love vigorously emotional in its character but tragic in its destiny.

The story is presented on the screen sincerely and interestingly, though not very skilfully, and because of its pleasing music, some effectively emotional passages and generally smoothly flowing narrative the picture becomes a good entertainer.

UNSUCCESSFUL IDEALIST

Kartik is a proud, intellectually-uncompromising playwright, a stage actor, classical singer and the proprietor of a theatrical company which is unable to be popular and successful because of its high-brow entertainment menu rigidly set down by Kartik. When Kartik's company performs its play at a theatre only flies come to the box-office and an almost empty hall witnesses Kartik's art, and while Kartik returns from the stage to the makeup room with his chin high with artistic pride, his younger brother and others in the company carry heads bent down with financial facts. In spite of debts and his long unpaid employees, Kartik, however, still refuses to shape his shows accordingly to popular taste.

While Kartik is in this sad pass, the place is suddenly invaded by a cheap 'tamasha' troupe headed by buxom, hip-swinging and 'pan'-chewing Gulbakshi, which pitches its tent in the same building where Kartik and his men are lodged. Kartik's younger brother hates the sight of the troupe and its proximity but when Gulbakshi along with her troupe appears on the same stage where Kartik had failed, the hall is filled with whistling, cheering crowds feeling ecstatic to see Gulbakshi furiously prancing and mincing behind the footlights with all her weight to fast 'lavni' tunes.

The sensitive side of the crude 'tamasha' girl, however, is seen when one night she hears the strains of Kartik's classical song and attracted by it goes to Kartik's door to hear it to the end. Gulbakshi continues to hear Kartik sing sitting outside his closed door for many a night till after some initial stumblings, she manages to get him interested in her, watch one of her better shows and then to take her in his own show.

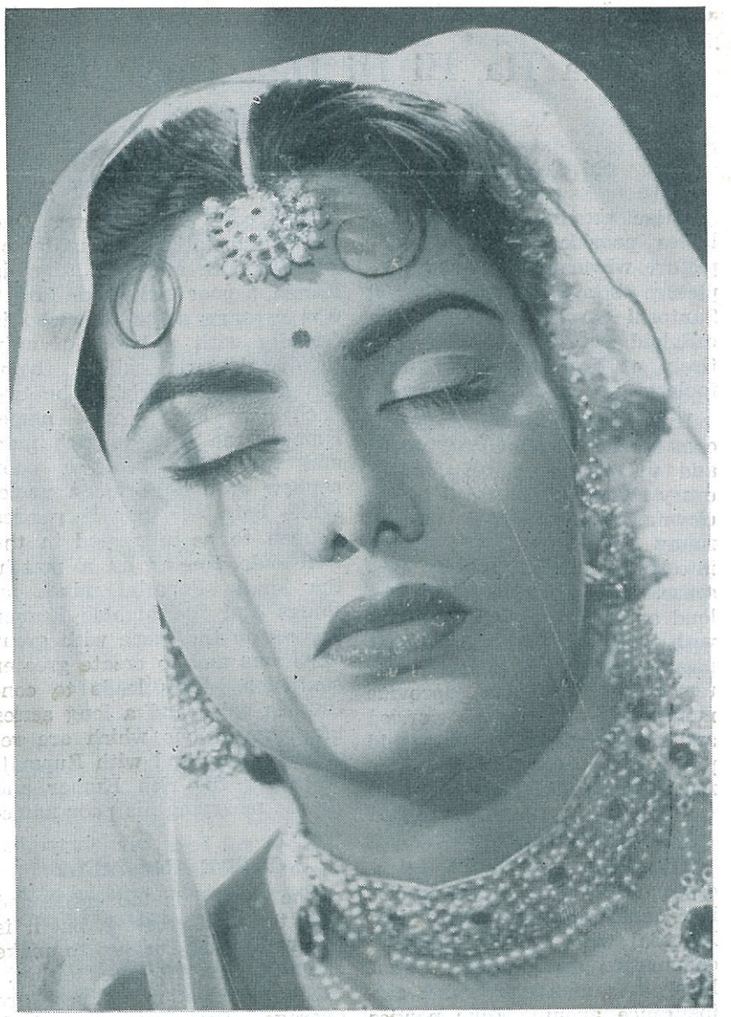
Disbanding her troupe, Gulbakshi helps Kartik with her money, makes him stage a successful operatic play and moves quite near to his heart. But as Kartik's stage success grows in partnership with Gulbakshi, his reputation begins to wane because of his open attachment to Gulbakshi, as he happens to be married. His wife now regrets having allowed Gulbakshi to live with them. After a crisis Gulbakshi is forced to go away from Kartik. Later as Kartik keeps on climbing on the ladder of success, Gulbakshi keeps languishing in frustrated love and poverty. But in the end she returns to watch Kartik's show and puts off the embers of her love for Kartik by dying in the auditorium chair.

MODEST BUT ENTERTAINING

The technical values of the picture are modest. Sets are medicore. Photography is erratic and sound recording is none-too-efficient. The music is quite pleasant with the exception of some rather irritatingly crude passages illustrating the cheap standards of 'tamashas'. The director could have invested the picture with more appeal and emotionalism, but as it is he manages to make an entertaining job of it helped by the interesting story and some good bits of characterization.

In Gulbakshi, Hansa Wadkar plays a well conceived role efficiently. She looks vigorous and versatile, at times a bit oldish too, and dominates the picture. Shahu Modak as Kartik looks sincere but still silly and wooden and when he sings classical songs on the 'tanpura', he gives an impression of a man getting an attack of malaria. Sulochana as his wife is quiet and dignified. Vyankatesh Madgulkar, as Kartik's younger brother, seems to have too much of a sour face for good acting. From the rest Raja Gosavi as the loving, laugh-provoking stooge of Gulbakshi is quite interesting.

In short, "Mee Tulas Tuzhya Angani", presents an interesting emotional tale with sincerity in a wrapping of pleasant music and provides enough entertainment.



When they close their eyes they see more of the world than men think. It is the meditation of the heron merely to catch the fish. Watch Nimmi doing the trick in "Basant Bahar", a musical romance.

MEE TULAS TUZHYA ANGANI

Producers:	Nav Chitra
Language:	Marathi
Story, Lyrics & Dialogue:	G. D. Madgulkar
Music:	Sudhir Phadke
Photography:	Bal Bapat
Sound:	Balasahib Chavan
Cast:	Hansa Wadkar, Shahu Modak, Sulochana, V. Madgulkar, Raja Gosavi etc.
Released At:	Royal Opera House, Bombay
Date of Release:	6th May 1955

Directed By:
RAJA THAKUR

OUR REVIEW

"Mr. & Mrs. '55" A Frivolous Entertainer

Picture Is A Flippant Time-killer

"Mr. & Mrs. 55" provides just about the timid type of entertainment we expect from Director Guru Dutt. The picture is an odd mixture of some silly satire, mild comedy, ludicrous characterizations, popularly tuned songs, and the usual laboriously dandified song takings which seem to have become Guru Dutt's stock-in-trade. Thus, though the picture manages to become an average entertainer, it proves that Guru Dutt has his eyes so fanatically riveted on formula-entertainment that dramatically he has almost become cockeyed.

With his apparent shivering fear of box-office failure and his obvious, none-too-intelligent belief that entertainment can be served only through comicality and catchy songs, Guru Dutt seems to have grown almost a morbid aversion to any seriousness in his pictures. And be it love, marriage, crime or unemployment, he seems only too eager to reduce everything to a flippant nothing. This preoccupation with so-called light entertainment now makes Guru Dutt look like a director with stunted imagination, incapable of any dramatic force, emotional depths or intellectual heights. And that is a pity because Guru Dutt is a young and technically efficient director who can profitably realize that an ounce of thought is more enduring than tons of tomfoolery.

BELIEVE-IT-OR-NOT TALE

The story is some fantastic stuff, foggy in purpose and feeble in effect, and something which flies out of one's mind as one walks out of the theatre. There is a rich girl called Anita Varma who looks soft in the limbs and equally soft in the head. Anita happens to have a dominant guardian, her aunt Sita Devi, who is a fanatical 'fighter for women's rights', a man-hater but a mammon-lover. The eccentric aunt wants Anita to be her shadow and have no truck with men but the soft girl is already attracted to a soft male, a flabby tennis champion called Ramesh.

The trouble starts when on Anita's twenty-first birthday her dead father's will is opened and it is discovered that a fabulous sum of 70 lakhs of rupees is to be Anita's provided she is already married or, if not, she gets married within one month of the opening of the will. That upsets Sita Devi temporarily but being too shrewd to throw away 70 lakhs she starts planning a fake marriage for Anita. Through an editor friend of hers she contacts Preetam, an unemployed cartoonist, and proposes to him that he should formally marry Anita in court, never consummate the marriage or even see Anita after the marriage and be willing to give her a divorce whenever called upon to do so. For the services she offers Preetam 250 rupees a month during his employment as 'husband'. Since Preetam had accidentally met Anita before and liked her looks, he accepts the 'job'.

From here the story plods forward through oddly concocted scenes and mainly helped by generally funny dialogue instead of being developed into a bright comedy of situations. Anita, who after being humiliatingly jilted by Ramesh had just begun to take a liking to Preetam, grows a great contempt for him when she learns that he has agreed to play her husband for a monthly wage. In the succeeding footage Preetam tries hard to convince Anita that he loves her but just when she is about to be convinced, Sita Devi sets the divorce proceedings rolling and feeling frustrated Preetam goes out of his way to bring about the divorce. However, towards the fag end the soft girl changes her soft mind and rushes to embrace Preetam and brings the whole affair to a happy ending.

The general run of picture-goers can have little quarrel with the picture for it provides ample average entertainment. It is light entertainment which one starts witnessing at 3 p.m. and then forgets all about it at 6 p.m. But those, who do not believe that entertainment consists of only flippance and comicality with a dash of music and who believe that even a comedy can carry some emotional currents and intellectual undercurrents, are likely to be disappointed with Guru Dutt, the way he seems to have made a habit of fighting shy of any dramatic or emotional moments in his pictures.

The advantage of being a chimpanzee! Ralph Quinlan, the trainer of Zippy, Hollywood's famous television star, sees his Darwinian ancestor stealing a march over him when Zippy gave a warm kiss to Indian film star Mohana at the Santa Cruz airport. Zippy has been flown to India to star in Gemini's three-million-rupee screen classic "Insaniyat". Zippy will have great company with Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, Bina Rai and other top-liners of our screen working with him. And let us hope some of our stars learn some good manners from Zippy, for, Zippy is reported to be having perfect manners. He seems to believe even in kissing carefully, keeping his tongue in.

GURU DUTT, A CARTOON

The production values are average. Sets and photography are quite good while sound recording is an average job. Lyrics are corny but the dialogue is generally amusing and effective. The music is only mildly interesting but one or two songs are quite pleasantly tuned. The direction is technically suitable but unambitious.

From the players, Madhubala as Anita looks fairly pretty but acts with clumsy naivete. She tries to make many faces but they mean little though they amuse a lot. Guru Dutt, as the cartoonist Preetam, looks a walking cartoon. He walks through the picture with so few and enigmatic expressions that he looks more like a funny secret agent than a romantic caricaturist. As Sita Devi, Lalita Pawar dons silver-touched hair, spectacles and sleeveless blouses and seems to have been modelled after Vijaylaxmi Pandit. But in spite of all her talk and tailoring, she looks a cook in stolen clothes. She visibly lacks culture. Johnny Walker plays a press photographer friend of Preetam and does enjoyable work. Al Nasir is the tennis champion and he is unimpressive. From the rest the newcomer Yasmin as Johnny Walker's heart-throb appears quite a good looker.

All in all, "Mr. & Mrs. 55" is an average light entertainer, entertaining for the moment but holding no attachment for the memory. And since much of it is Guru Dutt's usual glamourized jugglery, it is no special compliment to Guru Dutt.

Mr. & Mrs. '55

Producers:	**Guru Dutt Films**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Dialogue:	**Abrar Alvi**
Lyrics:	**Majrooh**
Music:	**O. P. Nayyar**
Photography:	**V. K. Murthy**
Song Recording:	**Mukul Bose**
Cast:	**Madhubala, Guru Dutt, Lalita Pawar, Johnny Walker, etc.**
Released At:	**Swastik, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**29th April 1955**

Directed By:
GURU DUTT

OUR REVIEW

"Uran Khatola", An Eye-filling Entertainment

Good Music And Impressive Production Values

Sunny Art Productions' "Uran Khatola" is a lavish fantasy, a musical extravaganza and a passion-charged melodrama — all rolled into one. It is not superior entertainment by intellectual standards but it is a superb production and it seems it is going to be quite a hit at the box-office with all the attraction of its lavish, spectacular sets, excellent photography, melodious music, its uncanny background of a canny and rather corny story and other ingredients.

Shakeel Badayuni's story is a jumbled tale, but it is a jumble of sighs and songs, love and tragedy, designs and impulses, drama and fantasy, and the jumble has been painstakingly polished and lavishly mounted by the director resulting in a picture which is not thrilling but entertaining, not convincing but designed to be popular. It is an average picturegoer's date and perhaps an exhibitor's dream.

THE OLD, OLD TALE

The story begins with a shipwreck showing one survivor reaching the 'unchartered island of Shanga' and coming across an old, bent man on the deserted island who starts telling the shipwreck survivor his life story beginning from the time when '40 years ago' he had himself landed on the island as the survivor of a plane crash. This beginning sets the mood for fantasy because while the ill-starred ship makes the spectator feel that he is about to witness a tale of the sea-pirate days, the aeroplane talk drags him forth to the 20th century. And the news that 40 years ago, that is calculating from today in 1915 when the invention called the aeroplane was only 12 years old, an Indian gentleman named Kashi had had the pleasure of travelling in an aeroplane fills the heart of an Indian with pride, even though the information is historically inaccurate.

Kashi, the plane crash survivor, then starts telling his tale to the shipwreck survivor and the picture plunges into flash-back. After the plane crashes on the island, Kashi is rescued by Soni, a local belle, and her brother Hitu. Kashi is taken by Soni and Hitu to their father, a religious figure of reverence in the land, who advises Kashi to go to the local queen and seek her permission for his stay on the island. This funny-looking and mysterious queen whose hobby is to throw knives at wooden statues of males, takes a single look at Kashi's dial and gladly grants him the permission to stay in her kingdom. And when Kashi tells her that he is a citizen of India, the country "famous for its music and love", she asks him to use his stay there in giving her demonstrations of both the famous arts, particularly of love. But before this Kashi and Soni have already stared at each other long enough to realize that they are made for each other and so Kashi doesn't feel very enthusiastic about the royal invitation to romance.

The muddle of love and passions is thus established and Shangu, a villainous high-hat in the land strongly desiring Soni for himself, adds to the muddle which goes on through thousands of feet of music, mystery, intrigues and romance and eerie jargon till in the end the lovers Soni and Kashi are never able to unite on earth and poor Soni after going through a lot of literal and figurative fire jumps to her death as a voluntary sacrificial goat to pacify the land's enraged gods. But just before the picture ends, the old, bent Kashi leaves his mortal coil and unites with Soni in death. The poor shipwreck survivor is forgotten in the fadeout of the eternal triangle.

BEAUTIFULLY FRAMED

The production values are excellent with lavish and fantastic sets, outstanding camera-work by Jal Mistry and efficient sound recording by Robin Chatterjee. Music is generally attractive and melodious though

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some Western operatic piping in the background hurts the ears. Lyrics range from tolerable to trite and the boat metaphor is used to annoying extent by Shakeel Badayuni. The dialogue has the quality of sounding profound while generally being banal. Sunny's direction is painstaking and effective and he succeeds in wringing enough interest out of the story and other props in the picture in spite of a very thin and hackneyed story.

From the players, Dilip Kumar gives an effective and interesting performance in the role of Kashi though at places he looks to be trying hard to convince himself of his surroundings. Nimmi as Soni gives her usual sensitive performance with an extra edge. We wish the role had not called upon her to wear male attire so much as that detracts from her attraction as a piece of femininity. Suryakumari as the wily queen is well-photographed but ill-cast. She never manages to convince and reduces the portrayal of her role to amateur theatricalism. At places she looks just stupid. Jeevan as the villain Shangu gives a bombastic perfomance which seems to be the result of the hangover of his similar performance in "Nagin". Agha as Hitu provides the usual laughs. From the rest, Roopmala as an attendant of the queen is passable.

In fine, "Uran Khatola", in spite of its faults and limitations, is a superb production, a lavish entertainer and perhaps another season of spring at the box-office.

URAN KHATOLA

Producers:	**Sunny Art Productions**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story & Dialogue:	**Azm Bazidpuri**
Lyrics:	**Shakeel Badayuni**
Music:	**Naushad**
Photography:	**Jal Mistry**
Sound:	**Robin Chatterjee**
Cast:	**Dilip Kumar, Nimmi, Suryakumari, Jeevan, Agha, Roopmala etc.**
Released at:	**Regal & Imperial, Bombay.**
Date of Release:	**20th May 1955**

Directed By:
S. U. SUNNY

When a cameraman gives a pose, he makes a woman look like a marble statue. That is what poor Kammo looks like in this picture and she has so much to photograph in "Teen Bhai", a social story.

OUR REVIEW

"Veer Rajputani", A Clumsy Hogwash

"Gentle" Jamsu's Uninspiring Return

"Veer Rajputani" is a fling at medieval Indian history by Wadia Brothers, the old stunt merchants of the celluloid world. Like King Midas whose touch turned everything into gold, the Wadia Brothers seem to possess the gift of turning any subject they touch into one long stunt on the screen.

As a stunt picture with some cheap thrills and mild excitement "Veer Rajputani" can be called a tolerable affair for inane and habitually hand-clapping picturegoers. But as a historical-complexioned story set in the days of the Mughal Akbar and the Rajput Rana Pratap and dealing with the Rajput chivalry and heroism and even portraying Rana Pratap in good length, it looks one long silly, ugly and crude caricature rather than a convincing depiction of those heroic times.

Wadia Brothers may have been, as they claim, inspired by this book or that in making "Veer Rajputani" but this picture fails to inspire us at all. Putting Bipin Gupta in helmet and costumes to resemble the popular portraits of Rana Pratap and making a bunch of naive-looking girls and stupid looking males swing swords and ride all over the screen is not making an inspiring picture of Rajput chivalry with historical flavour. In fact those who have formed from history a glorious picture in their minds of the valiant Pratap, his heroic deeds and his brave band of followers, will only be irritated by this crude and stupid caricature of history.

A THIN TALE

The story has to do with Padmavati, the daughter of Alkapuri's ruler Bhagwat Singh, who while receiving training in sword-fighting and other things in an 'ashram' falls in love with Veer Singh, the brother of dacoit Zalim Singh, who has parted ways with his ignoble brother with the cherished hope of serving Rana Pratap. The 'ashram' chief frowns on their romance and separated from each other Padma returns to her father while Veer lands in Virampur as a commander of the army of Viramraj, a cowardly, clownish anti-Pratap ruler. Veer, however, does not know that Padma, whom he knew as Hansa at the 'ashram', is the princess of Alkapuri. And by the time he realizes it he has already promised Viramraj to capture his brother Zalim Singh and hand him over to Viramraj so that Viramraj may take Zalim Singh as captive to the Alkapuri ruler and marry his daughter Padma, as the reward announced by the Zalim Singh-harassed ruler of Alkapuri for the capture of the dacoit. After a lot of stunts and stupidities, the picture comes to an end with Rana Pratap personally intervening to see that Padma is not forced to marry Viramraj and instead gets hitched to Veer.

There is nothing inspiring in this picture and the old Rajput heroes' luck must be pitied that they had to be portrayed on the screen by Wadia stunt-specialists. Instead of a convincing picture of Rajput heroism,

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"Veer Rajputani" appears a crude trash and instead of inspiring history it looks a hogwash.

CRUDE AND CLUMSY

The production values are unimpressive. Sets are tolerable here and there but they fail to recreate the era. Photography is uneven and sound recording is average. The dialogue is unintelligent, songs stupid and music mildly tolerable. The direction is fitting for a stunt picture but stupid for a portrayal of history.

From the players, Shakila as Padma looks naive but tolerable. Manhar Desai as Veer Singh looks and acts infinitely stupid. Bipin Gupta as Rana Pratap is clumsy and utterly unconvincing and an insult to the memory of the great Rajput warrior. B. M. Vyas as Viramraj looks graceless and disgusting. Among others who look awkward and unconvincing are Anwar as poet Prithviraj and Meenakshi as Viramraj's sister.

In short, "Veer Rajputani" dealing with Rana Pratap and Rajput valour is a crude, clumsy and utterly unconvincing picture which evokes the prayer that Wadia Brothers should leave history and Rajputs alone in future.

VEER RAJPUTANI

Producers:	Basant Pictures
Language:	Hindustani
Story & Screenplay:	J.B.H. Wadia
Dialogue:	Tahir Lucknavi & J.B.H. Wadia
Lyrics:	G. S. Nepali
Music:	Bulo C. Rani
Photography:	Aga Hasham
Sound:	Minoo Tampal
Cast:	Shakila, Manhar Desai, Meenakshi, Bipin Gupta, B. M. Vyas, Anwar etc.
Released At:	Super, Bombay.
Date of Release:	6th May 1955
Directed By:	J. B. H. WADIA

OUR REVIEW

"Raftar", Matchless in Stupidity & Peerless in Boredom

Absurd Story And Crassly Idiotic Direction

Filmco's "Raftar" is a picture which must be seen only by those people who do not yet know and are eager to know how stupid can a motion picture be. "Raftar" will prove that a picture can be lethally stupid and once a man has seen "Raftar" out of curiosity he will curse his curiosity and shudder to be curious again about anything in the world for the rest of his life.

For, here is a picture which is matchless in stupidity, peerless in boredom and incomparable in inefficiency and incompetence. Containing an absurd story, extremely stupid performances, crassly idiotic direction and generous dashes of crudity and vulgarity, the picture is a disgraceful monument of near collapse of human intelligence and imagination in the artistic field of motion picture production.

SUGGESTING HOMO-SEXUALITY

Its stupid story deals with two orphans called Rajan and Sajjan. Rajan leaves the orphanage to be adopted by a rich man and grows into a young man rolling in luxury, while his brother Sajjan grows into a notorious dacoit. Rajan now comes across a young girl of obscure past who passes herself off as a man dressed in male attire and calling herself Nirmal. Rajan, of course, misses her sex and employs her as his chauffeur. Subsequently the director tries to develop a romance between Rajan and his disguised female chauffeur in spite of Rajan having a fiancee in dancer Sheela whom Rajan does not seem to like much. But since Rajan starts behaving in an oddly intimate way with Nirmal even before he has realized that Nirmal is a woman, these episodes look crude, absurd and even vulgar and seem to suggest homosexual traits in Rajan. Later, however, Rajan stumbles on Nirmal's true sex, falls in love with her and after a few more reels of concentrated stupidity, marries her, while his dacoit brother surrenders himself to police.

It is not possible to describe in words all the idiocy that this picture contains because practically every foot of the picture is dyed deep in stupidity and it is a picture over 13000 feet long. All we can say is that rarely before have we felt the absence of human intelligence so much in a picture as in this one.

ROTTEN ALL ROUND

The production values are rotten. Sets are few and ugly. Photography is poor and sound recording incompetent. Lyrics are the usual silly stuff while the dialogue is idiotic. Music has no appeal. The director's work should go down in history as one of the most idiotic jobs in the entire history of the films.

As to acting, there is hardly a person in the picture who does not look foolish and a cold-blooded murderer of the art of acting. Nadira as Nirmal looks clumsy and graceless and when she starts dancing, a bear dance looks beautiful in comparison. Talat as Rajan looks stupid from start to finish and backs his face with an equally stupid performance. This man should leave the screen alone. Bikram Kapoor, as his foster father, looks actually his natural one, if stupidity is a hereditary quality. Meenakshi as Sheela is extremely awkward while the funny-face who plays the dacoit does some more deliriously ludicrous work than perhaps anybody on two legs can be expected to do. Baby Naaz as a rather precocious kid is the only tolerable performer in the picture. She overacts.

In short, "Raftar" is an indescribably idiotic picture the like of which we don't remember having seen in a long time and the like of which we pray God not to be doomed to see in future.

RAFTAR

Producers:	Filmco
Language:	Hindustani
Story & Dialogue:	Akhtar-ul-Iman
Lyrics:	Nakhshab
Music:	Shivram
Photography:	D. C. Mehta
Cast:	Nadira, Talat, Baby Naaz, Meenakshi, Bikram Kapoor etc.
Released At:	Roxy, Bombay.
Date of Release:	13th May 1955
Directed By:	NAKHSHAB

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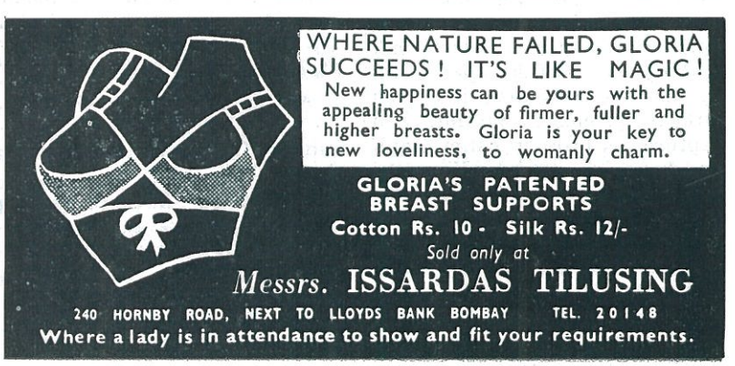
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REVIEWED IN HOLLYWOOD

by

Our Special Correspondent

"This is not a malicious tirade against all pictures coming from Hollywood. This is a deliberate campaign only against bad and dangerous pictures—pictures which contain lust, crime, violence and other anti-social elements. Good pictures from Hollywood or from any other country are always welcome. Like all good things they sell themselves. But bad and dangerous pictures have to be pointed out to save our people from becoming degenerate and demoralised members of society. Hollywood producers have turned America into a big colony of violent and sadistic criminals. This section is therefore intended to prevent that tragedy in our peace-loving, non-violent country." Baburao Patel.

THE PRODIGAL (M.G.M.)

CAST: Lana Turner, Edmund Purdom, Louis Calhern

In the right rotten tradition of "Samson and Delilah" "Salome" and "Demetrius and the Gladiators", MGM's "The Prodigal" is another brazen example of Hollywood tapping the Holy Bible for a strong mixture of violence, voluptuousness and sensuality. Based on the parable of the prodigal son, as told in St. Luke, Chapter XV, "Prodigal" is a licentious screen interpretation of the original oracle which tries not so much to emphasize the moral of the parable as to vigorously illustrate in great detail and glamour the reprehensible deeds of a misguided man as only vaguely hinted in the Scripture.

For this, Hollywood indulges in what may be called one of the most shameless and unwarranted attempts to read in between the lines of a scriptural text. The Bible tells the parable in brief, simple, 22 verses to prove that "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth". The second verse of the parable refers to the prodigal demanding and receiving his inheritance from his father. The third verse tells about his taking a journey "into a far country" and there leading a dissolute life. In the fourth verse he has "spent all" and is in misery. In the fifth he becomes a slave. In the sixth he is starving. In the seventh his thoughts run back to his father. And in the eighth verse he decides to repent and return home. The remaining verses describe his return and reunion with the family. And besides a later verse in which the prodigal's brother speaks to his father about the prodigal having "devoured thy living with harlots", there is only one verse, the third of the parable, which refers to the prodigal's profligacy in the far country in the briefest statement: "and there wasted his substance with riotous living".

It is clear from the picture that Hollywood was fascinated by the phrase "riotous living" more than anything else in the parable and was eager to expand those two words into a wanton two-hour screen essay on lust, sensuality and voluptuousness. It wanted to visualize with all the vigour of its perverse imagination and its lewd curiosity how the prodigal must have "wasted his substance with riotous living" and how he must have squandered his inheritance "with harlots". It wanted to pander to vulgar and voluptuous tastes more than to popularize the moral of the parable.

"By and large the pervasive influence of films is very great. It is not only pervasive but also widespread. Its influence may not be as deep as those of books, yet it is a strong influence in moulding the lives of people . . . . . I am clear in my mind that crime and horror stories should be suppressed ruthlessly. Such stories were a hundred per cent bad, causing sadistic crimes. Such films encouraged children to murder for the sake of pleasure. No government or society should allow such things to flourish. Government ought to take ruthless action to prevent something turning into an instrument of evil." Prime Minister Nehru at the Film Seminar on February 27, 1955.

Therefore the picture is filled with violence and voluptuousness, brutality and sensuality, pagan revelry and lewd, gyrating temple maidens, suggestive scenes of lust and revolting scenes of cruelty. The prodigal's chief pursuit is personified in sexy-looking Lana Turner as the pagan high priestess who goes about half-naked wearing a brief bead-costume, perhaps Hollywood's idea of ante-dating the Bikini swimsuit. While this seductive, semi-nude high priestess looks like the older version of a modern stripteaser, the amorous temple maidens remind one of the modern burlesque.

The majority of the 117 minutes of the picture are devoted to showing the prodigal's pursuit of lust and sensual pleasure which is described in just one single verse of the parable, while about ten last minutes, of the picture deal with his remorse and reunion with his family which is described in 15 verses in the parable.

Well, that shows the essential difference between Hollywood and the Holy Bible. This Hollywood practice, however, of serving violent, voluptuous and lustful entertainment under the pretext of portraying Biblical tales is disgusting and reprehensible.

"The Prodigal" is the latest flagrant example of Hollywood's fraud on the picturegoers in the name of the Bible. It is an unbridled exhibition of bad taste and perverse imagination and therefore, it deserves to be banned outright. If our censors have any wisdom and courage, they should do so.

A bank balance plays havoc with a woman's face. The security it provides adds ounces to her face and pounds to her body and youth soon takes the complexion of age. Shyama is speeding towards retirement but she still raises a thrill in "Mr. Chakram", a social comedy.

As shown on the screen, the story begins with Micah (Edmund Purdom), the younger son of a Hebrew patriarch (Walter Hampden), knocking off a brutal officer in the main street of Joppa and rescuing Asham (James Mitchell), a mute tyrannized slave who had been sentenced to death for conspiring a revolt against Nahreeb (Louis Calhern), the high priest of Baal, and Samarra (Lana Turner), the high priestess of Astarte, the pagan gods. When Micah chances to see some pagan revelry, his eyes fall on Samarra and he is at once filled with lust and desire for the physical charms of the high priestess. He makes a quick decision, rushes back home to break his engagement to Ruth (Audrey Dalton) and demand his inheritance from his father and then sets out for Damascus taking Asham with him. In Damascus he runs into the voluptuous temple maidens and other fleshpots of the pagan city. His relentless pursuit of Samarra, however, infuriates Nahreeb who gets his house burnt down and the prodigal imprisoned. As the price of his freedom, Micah is asked to renounce his religion and accept pagan gods which he refuses to do. When believed to be a dead slave Micah is thrown into the vulture pit, he successfully defends himself from the gruesome attacks of a giant carrion-eater and then freeing other slaves, rebellious against the tyrannical rule of the pagan gods, leads them into a revolt which ends in Samarra being burnt to death, Nahreeb being stabbed to death and the idols and temples being destroyed to ruin. Having had his experience of the fleshpots of Damascus including a night of pleasure with Samarra and of misery and slavery, Micah is filled with repentence and returns home to be forgiven by his father and reunited with his betrothed.

Final Verdict: This picture is a blatant fraud in the name of Biblical entertainment. It insults the Holy Bible. On the whole it emerges as a disgusting stew of sex, lust and violence and a sordid visual essay on brutality and sensuality and deserves to be banned as objectionably concocted entertainment.

THE MARAUDERS (M.G.M.)

CAST: Dan Duryea, Jeff Richards, Keenan Wynn

Set in the Arizona of 1875, "The Marauders" is a violent Western based on the rancher-versus-homesteader theme. But it is a picture whose violence is excessive, brutal and continuous. From start to finish the picture is a furious and flaming packet of violence and savagery in which men commit cold-blooded murders just to convince the onlookers of their sternness, homes are set on fire by rolling flaming wagons towards them and in which men defend themselves by hurling charges of dynamite at their opponents. With all the brutal violence that is massed in this picture, "The Marauders" looks nothing but a brazen essay on savagery and blatant propagation of violence as a way of life.

The results of this sedulous violence-preaching are evident in America where kids' toys have become switch-knives and real pistols. Unless we want Indian children also to play with knives, firearms and human blood, Hollywood's bloody and brutal Westerns must be banned in India because most of them just show violence for the sake of violence and tend to poison a young mind.

If our censors remember even faintly what Mahatma Gandhi tried to preach all his life and if they have at all understood the meaning of Prime Minister Nehru's words which he spoke at the recent Delhi Film Seminar in connection with objectionable films, then they should be able to ban this picture entirely and prove their worth, vigilance and character.

The story concerns Jeff Richards who is a homesteader in Arizona in 1875. Harry Shannon, a ruthless and powerful rancher, is determined to evict Richards and hires a band of killers to drive him out. While Richards is making preparations to defend himself, James Anderson along with his wife Jarma Lewis and their little son, comes seeking refuge in Richards' house. Later when Shannon and his hired killers attack Richards, Anderson helps Richards to fight back the killers. During the attack Shannon receives mortal wounds and as he returns to die in his camp, his quiet book-keeper, Dan Duryea, suddenly proclaims himself the boss of the gang. As other killers begin to take his decision as a joke, Duryea shoots one of the killers dead in order to impress the rest. The cold-blooded murder does impress the killers who become subdued including Keenan Wynn who becomes Duryea's chief lieutenant. In the other camp, Richards, who was alone against the killers, fears that if he allowed Anderson and his family to depart, the killers would come to know that he was fighting single-handed. So Richards forces Anderson and his family to stay there. Anderson, however, escapes and is captured by Duryea who happens, in reality, to be a demented, consumptive man fond of believing himself to be a military strategist. Duryea is convinced that Richards has a large force at his back and when Anderson fails to confirm his belief he is instantly murdered by Duryea. Shortly after Jarma also escapes from the house and goes to Duryea's camp seeking aid. But when she realizes the mad character of Duryea, in order not to provoke him she lies to him that Richards was being aided by a large force of men. She is then asked by Duryea to take his message to Richards demanding his surrender. Once back at Richards'

Moonlight often deceives a woman. It makes even Agha acceptable in spite of the stupid tip to his nose. But these Aghas of romance talk too long and the early rays of the sun leave them badly exposed. And then the woman runs away, back to her cloisters, wiser by her experience. And then the Aghas wait and whistle below the windows. Agha Jan has Usha Kiran, at least, mildly interested in him in "Ut Patang", a romantic comedy produced and directed by our veteran producer Seth Chandulal Shah for G. M. Pictures.

house, Jarma begins helping him fully in preparing the defence. Finding that Richards was not surrendering, Duryea orders his men to take a wagon up a mountain, and hurtle it down into Richards' cabin after setting the wagon on fire. Richards once again fights the attack and using a home-made catapult hurls charges of dynamite at his enemies. Frightened, Duryea's men run away leaving him behind in rage and under an attack of cough and internal haemorrhage. The crazy villain then plays a regular military surrender before Richards and then collapses in death.

Final Verdict: This picture is a brazen, disgusting essay on naked violence, dangerous in its influence on young minds and, therefore, deserves to be banned outright without the slightest hesitation.

KISS ME DEADLY (United Artists)

CAST: Ralph Meeker, Albert Dekker, Paul Stewart

This picture represents the combined talents of Author Mickey Spillane and Hollywood. And for anybody who is familiar with the works of both, it should not be difficult to imagine what brand of entertainment it serves and what type of filth it contains. Mickey Spillane is one stinking and notorious symbol of decadent and perverted America and Hollywood is another. They both combine to give in this picture a whole stinking heap of literary and visual filth which leaves one completely sickened. Based on Spillane's book of the same name, the picture revolves round Mike Hammer, the sadistic, unscrupulous private detective well-known to readers of American soft-cover trash, and floods the screen with violence, murders, sadism, brutality and disgusting, blatant sex. Besides Mike Hammer, who is one of the most repulsive heroes ever created in fiction, the picture is crowded with gangsters who are blissfully ignorant of the value

The Problem Grows Worse . . .

Call him "Tarzan." That's what he calls himself.

His real name is Frank Santana and he looks like a malnourished mouse, but he thinks he's quite a guy—especially when he's carrying a gun.

A slim, dark, adenoidal kid of 17, he was strutting down a street in the Bronx last week with a dozen members of his gang, the Navajos. They were in uniform. They wore blue jeans and leather jackets, trimmed in yellow and emblazoned with the insigne of the gang, a portrait of a Plains Indian. And they were looking for Golden Guineas. The Golden Guineas are a gang of teen-agers, too. The day before, a group of them had caught "Tarzan" and given him a pushing around. The Navajos wanted revenge.

Model: William Blankenship Jr., 15, came up the street. He wasn't a Navajo or a Golden Guinea. He wasn't a member of any gang. He was a model student in high school, the son of a research chemist who spent his spare time working to prevent juvenile delinquency.

"Tarzan" gave his gun, a .32-caliber Italian automatic, to a lieutenant to hold. He grabbed Blankenship and accused him of being a Golden Guinea. The lieutenant, Ralph Falcon, 16, "Superman," waved the gun menacingly.

"Don't point that gun at me," cried Blankenship.

"Superman" put the gun in his belt.

"Don't chicken out," then screamed "Tarzan" at "Superman."

He grabbed the gun and fired, killing Blankenship.

The Navajos scattered.

The cops found "Tarzan" at his apartment. They found the gun in the bathroom water tank. They also found a pair of brass knuckles.

"Why did you shoot the kid?" the policemen asked.

"Tarzan" looked at his fists.

"I didn't want to bang up these knuckles," he said. "I'm a boxer, you know. So I used a gun." He added with an air of apology: "I'm not very good at street fighting, anyway."

Jungle: It took a crime as senseless as the murder of young Blankenship last week to make Americans aware of a chilling fact: In several of the nation's cities, and particularly in New York and Chicago, juvenile delinquency is actually becoming organized gangsterism. The old Prohibition mobs are gone. Yet some of the cities remain jungles. Where the Prohibition mobsters prowled, teen-age hoodlums, organized like armies, have taken over. They are not just "bad kids." They are criminals. And they don't hesitate to kill. The Prohibition mobsters killed for a purpose. The teen-agers often will kill simply for the sake of killing or because, like Frank Santana, they dont want to "chicken out."

They have actually pre-empted certain types of crime. In New York, Police Commissioner Francis Adams says, most of the robberies, burglaries, and auto thefts are now being committed by these teen-age hoods.

Juvenile delinquents come from every class of society, but the teen-age gang is a phenomenon of the slums. And it is a

This is a cutting from "Newsweek", a popular American magazine, dated May 16, 1955.

It shows what Hollywood movies have done to America and fully justifies my ten-year old campaign against sex and crime pictures.

The question which Indian parents and censors must answer is: "Do we want this to happen to our peace-loving country?"

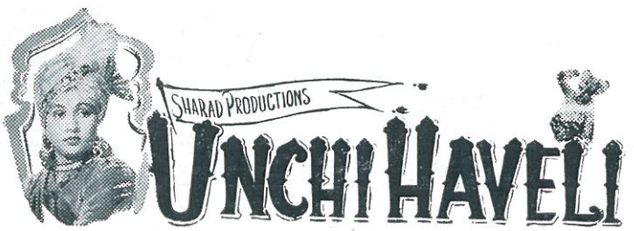
If the answer is "No", their our duty is obvious. Even our Prime Minister says: "I am clear in my mind that crime and horror stories must be suppressed ruthlessly". This is the first subject on which Pandit Nehru is "clear in mind".

Now, what are the censors waiting for?

Newsweek

DIRECTOR DHIRUBHAI DESAI'S

LINE-UP of Entertainers ! ! ! !



A breezily told thrilling tale of a WOMAN'S FIGHT FOR HER RIGHTS !

Starring : **NIRUPA ROY, KARAN DIWAN,** LALITA PAWAR, B. M. VYAS, YASHODHARA KATJU, JANKI DAS, INDIRA BANSAL and **BHAGWAN**

Songs : BHARAT VYAS ● *Music :* SHIVRAM

Camera : B. W. DESHI

Dialogue : VISHNU MALHOTRA, PRAFULLA DESAI and UMAR KHAIYAM SAHARANPURI

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★ ★ ★ ★

The Life of the IMMORTAL IDEAL WOMAN

SATI ANHSUYA

● NIRUPA ROY ● SULOCHANA ● B. M. VYAS

Music : SHIVRAM

And GLORIOUS PHANTASY

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of human life and sexy females who never seem to have heard the word 'virtue'. All this means extremely sordid and dangerous entertainment on the screen and to ban this picture is a patriotic obligation of the censors.

In brief, the story has Ralph Meeker (Mike Hammer) stopping his car in response to the waving of a hysterical, half-naked girl. The girl asks for a lift and then tells Meeker that she had escaped from a mental institution where she had been confined by some gangsters who feared that she knew more about them than was healthy for them. But before Meeker can learn some more about the matter, they are pounced upon by some mysterious people who first torture them and then with Meeker and the girl inside send the car over a cliff. The girl is killed in the incident but Meeker emerges alive with injuries and then starts a long unsavoury investigation to find the killers of the girl and the motive behind their crime. During the investigation Meeker comes across a variety of shady and unpleasant characters including gangsters, racketeers and sexy, doublecrossing females and is involved in numerous brutal brawls and death traps. At last he discovers a gang headed by a scientist who was planning to take a stolen radio-active element out of America. The discovery leads to a showdown with the gang and in the final burst of violence Meeker and his female secretary barely manage to save their lives while a doublecrossing woman is burnt alive by exposure to the radio-active substance thus adding the final touch to the destruction of the gang.

Final Verdict: Loaded with sex and sadism, crime and violence, this picture is a social menace in celluloid and deserves to be banned outright.

LAS VEGAS SHAKEDOWN (Allied Artists)

CAST: Dennis O'Keefe, Coleen Gray, Charles Winninger

Set in Las Vegas, that notorious town of sin, vice and gambling, this is another stinking crime picture generously doling out voluminous violence, ruthless crime, glamourized gambling and over-emphasized sex. The pretentious excuse for this sordid story with its sordid Las Vegas background is availed by having a character, a female researcher, go to Las Vegas to make a psychological study of gambling and collect material on it. Whether she succeeds in collecting material on gambling or not, the picturegoer collects a lot of violent and criminal dirt in his mind and returns a man needing a strong moral and aesthetic wash of his mind.

Being a sordid mixture of sex and crime, vice and violence this picture is positively vicious entertainment and an undesirable influence for picturegoers to be allowed to be exposed to. This picture, therefore, must be banned by our censors in the interests of our people.

The story has Coleen Gray, a researcher, as one of the numerous and various visitors to Rainbow's End, a huge Las Vegas hotel-casino run by Dennis O'Keefe. She is out to make a psychological study of gambling but O'Keefe gives her mind other subjects to think about as he involves her in a torrid romance, often with strong suggestions of sex, and then lands her in engagement with him. Now Thomas Gomez, an ex-convict, against whom O'Keefe had once testified, arrives in Las Vegas along with two gunmen Joseph Downing and Robert Armstrong. Gomez is out to gain possession of Rainbow's End even if he has to flourish guns along with the purchase money. But O'Keefe refuses to sell the casino and is then brutally beaten up by the hoodlums. Before Coleen can summon the police, Gomez runs away with his henchmen. Out on the track of the gangsters the police set up a roadblock to trap them and when the gangsters show up there starts a furious gun battle. In the battle Downing is killed while Gomez kills two deputy sheriffs,

When Armstrong tries to run away leaving Gomez alone, Gomez hurls a knife at him and brings him down. Now O'Keefe rushes to grapple with Gomez and kills him in a brutal battle in which he is himself seriously badgered by Gomez. With all the violence over O'Keefe and Coleen prepare to go to the altar.

Final Verdict: This is a sordid mixture of vice, crime and violence with touches of suggestive sex and deserves to be banned outright.

CRASHOUT (Filmakers)

CAST: William Bendix, Arthur Kennedy, Beverly Michaels

Recently, in New York, a 17-year old boy called Frank Santana shot dead in cold blood another boy of 15, William Blankenship, Jr., a total stranger to him, merely because Santana mistakenly thought Blankenship to be the member of a rival teen-age gang which had insulted Santana previously. This cold-blooded murder of a young boy by another young boy momentarily spotlighted juvenile delinquency in America and Americans paused to reflect what a major menace it had developed into.

Wrote the American magazine "Newsweek": "It took a crime as senseless as the murder of young Blankenship last week to make Americans aware of a chilling fact: In several of the nation's cities, and particularly in New York and Chicago, juvenile delinquency is actually becoming organized gangsterism. The old prohibition mobs are gone. Yet some of the cities remain jungles. Where the prohibition mobsters prowled, teen-age hoodlums, organized like armies, have taken over. They are not just "bad kids". They are criminals. And they don't hesitate to kill. The prohibition mobsters killed for a purpose. The teen-agers often will kill simply for the sake of killing...." The magazine then described in detail how teen-age gangs, of both boys and girls, are the order of the day in America and how stealing cars, staging fights, raiding restaurants and indulgence in violence and general gangsterism is the code of behaviour of teen-age gangs.

That is the picture of the American youth today after years of crime movies, crime comics, crime TV shows and other forms of crime propagation. And this tragic state of affairs will continue so long as Americans remain stupid enough to regard crime as a harmless ingredient of entertainment and silently accept dangerous crime pictures like "Crashout" as proper entertainment for the American youth. What is of more importance to us is that if pictures like "Crashout" are allowed to be exhibited in India they are bound to poison the life and minds of Indian youths too. If we want our youth to be healthy and cultured and not to become the nightmare of a nation like their American counterparts seem to have become, all crime pictures must be banned ruthlessly and our censors have a fit case for doing that in "Crashout". Dealing with six criminals' escape from a prison and their journey to a hideout of loot, this picture is an obnoxious mass of violence, brutality and savagery which is likely to make a decent picturegoer sick and disgusted for days.

The story has a big mob of prisoners at the Colorado State Penitentiary attempting a prison break. But out of all only six, including William Bendix, Arthur Kennedy, Luther Adler, William Talman, Gene Evans and Marshall Thompson, succeed in escaping to a mountain hideout. Finding the wounded Bendix a burden, the rest of them decide to leave him behind but when Bendix offers to share with them $180,000 of hidden loot they agree to stick by him and get him treated by a doctor. Bendix now considers the doctor to be a source of danger if allowed to go back and so he manages to have the doctor murdered in cold blood by his companions. The criminals then stage a holdup to obtain clothes and food and when a state trooper interferes with them Talman runs over the officer with a stolen car. During the scuffle Adler is also wounded and collapses to the ground but the others speed away without looking back. They soon abandon the car and climb into a train. During the journey Thompson starts taking romantic interest in a woman passenger and decides to leave the train at her destination but Bendix sees to it that instead he leaves this planet by being stabbed to death by Talman. Reduced in number but increased in brutality the convicts reach a farmhouse in the woods which they forcibly take over for a small halt on their way to the hideout of $180,000, and for a while Kennedy has an opportunity of provoking interest in himself in the sexy-looking Beverly Michaels. When the convicts leave the farmhouse in a farm truck a member of the family hurls an oil lamp at them and Evans is reduced to a glowing mass of flames. The remaining criminals Bendix, Kennedy and Talman reach the mountain in the truck and when faced with a snow-storm they start climbing to reach Bendix's hidden loot. On the way, however, Bendix thinks it unnecessary to have sharers in the loot and kills Talman. Kennedy thinks the same and kills Bendix. Being the sole survivor, Kennedy obtains the loot but by now the purpose of filling the screen with ruthless crime and sickening brutality having been satisfactorily served, Hollywood lets the law overtake the criminal Kennedy.

Final Verdict: This picture is concentrated criminal poison for any civilized society and it must be destroyed. If the censors cannot burn this picture let them at least ban it in the name of decency.

WOES & ECHOES

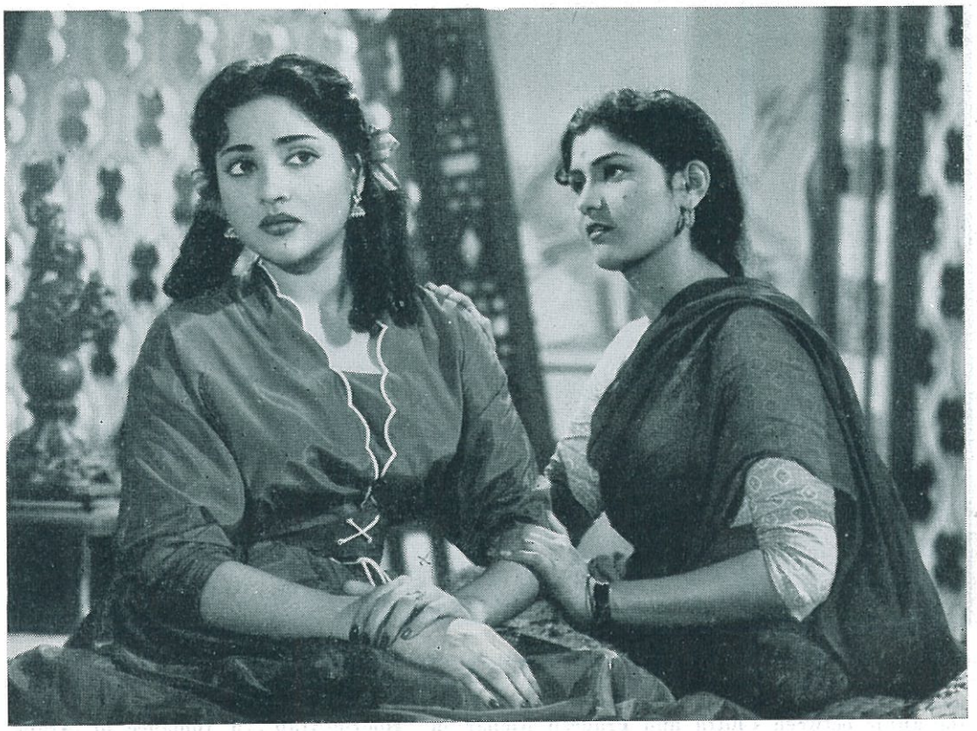
Rs. 5/- will be paid for every letter published in this section.

Happy! And satisfied with the job in hand! She has succeeded in turning a man into a mouse. And that is a triumph with a woman. Nadira keeps men on pinpoints in "Pocket Maar", a thrilling tale, which we hope to see if the censors agree.

OUR KASHMIRI PANDIT

"I am amazed at your uncanny knack (I should say gift) to see below the surface of things and dig out the truth like gold from a mine. Your editorial, "Betrayed and Stabbed" in the May issue of "filmindia" is a splendid example of this peculiar gift of yours. It was only after reading it that I was convinced of the shallowness and insincerity, not to say hypocrisy, of Pandit Nehru's flippant statement on property and his denunciation of the craze for personal possessions. Your masterly analysis showed me how Nehru himself is obsessed with the desire to possess property (which does not mean only lands and houses and furniture) and the most important item of which, in his own case, is nothing less than the love of millions of his countrymen. And is he not guarding it jealously, even as a green-eyed husband guards his wife, whom he suspects to be fickle, like public honour and esteem? In fact the tragedy of our country can mainly be ascribed to the unfortunate passion of our Prime Minister for this ephemeral glory and his inordinate desire to possess all of it himself. This is clearly demonstrated by the way he has got rid of his abler friends and opponents and the manner in which he has allowed himself to be surrounded by useless yes-men, who comprise as worthless and irritating a set of arrogant ignoramuses as we could care to think of.

"In this connection, I am reminded of an amusing story, about the truth of which I cannot vouch, but which I would like to narrate here as it very well depicts the Pandit's love of popularity and his anxiety to monopolize it. It is said that once, many years ago, Nehru and Rajendra Prasad were waiting in a compartment of a railway train prior to its departure from a Bombay station. The usual crowds had come to cheer the leaders, Pandit Nehru, of course, getting the lion's share of the ovation. He was waving to them heartily from the footboard of the carriage in response to their enthusiastic cries. It is said that when the crowd wished to see Prasad, who was sitting inside indisposed, and insisted on his coming out for an instant Pandit Nehru reprimanded the people for their lack of consideration and told them that Prasad could not be disturbed. Irresponsible persons who claim to have been witnesses of this incident allege that though Nehru's action was motivated by



When two cats meet they get only cattish thoughts and all cattish thoughts are stealthy and spiteful. Look at these two, one dodging while the other is pursuing. Vyjayantimala and Shashikala make "Sitara" a thrilling romance.

his genuine concern for the health of his friend and colleague, the jealous element was not entirely absent from it. They say that at the psychological moment when the crowd was all eager to see Prasad and would have cheered him thunderously if he had come out, a wave of apprehension and envy passed over Panditji's noble face. In this case also, it is said, he succeeded, as usual, in outshining his rivals, be they friends or foes, by his timely manoeuvre and tactful handling of the situation."

BOMBAY. **B. Subba Rao.**

MORE IS COMING

"Your editorial in the May issue has very aptly taken to task our Congress rulers for changing the Constitution according to their whims and moods. The amendment to Article 31 is the most undemocratic act perpetrated on the unwary people of India by the white-capped bureaucracy. Now the people will lose all enthusiasm for life and incentive to work when they know that the Government can dispossess them of their belongings at its sweet will. Prime Minister Nehru says that suitable compensation will be paid. The sincere and noble man that he is, we believe him. But what is the guarantee that his successors will not betray the people? Once on the Statute Book the law is as adamant and obstinate as an ass. And then even our shirts and trousers may be taken in public interest, it being an all-embracing term, and we cannot do anything.

"It is really our misfortune that in their zeal for flirting with Socialism, the followers of Gandhiji are fiddling with our Constitution and in the process are leading the country to a dangerous situation where life will be a burden and death a deliverance."

AJMER. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

CENSORS MISSED THE WORD?

"To me the most pathetic figure in Indian films is Producer-director Chetan Anand. Academically, he is one of the most qualified persons in the film industry today. Before coming over to films he had been working as a teacher for some time. Also he has travelled quite a lot, having been abroad a number of times. But of what avail has all this been? Education has failed to develop his mental faculties on proper lines. The nobility of his erstwhile profession has simply passed him by, without lighting up the smallest corner of his soul, while travel has utterly failed to widen his horizon. It is said that a man's worth is best judged from the quality of work he produces. Measured by this yardstick, Chetan's work reveals him as an ignoramus sans culture sans intelligence, who has walked through life with his eyes closed. His sole aim in the world appears to be to make some easy money and for this, he is prepared to pander to the basest human instincts.

"Those of your readers who may not wish to agree with me outright are advised (though reluctantly, for that would mean extending undeserved patronage) to go and have a look at his latest hotch-potch "Joru Ka Bhai". To call it a motion picture would be an exaggeration. Right from the first shot to the last, it is one unending saga of boredom punctuated with flashes of rank crudity and vulgarity. The supposedly funniest sequence is the one in which Johnny Walker consumes a packet of Brooklax, taking it to be a chocolate, and makes rapid and frantic visits to the lavatory. (A similar sequence appearing in Shaukat Hussain's "Jugnu" about seven years ago came in for severe criticism from "filmindia" and was later one of the causes leading to Bombay Government's temporary ban on the picture.) Not only that, at places the dialogue is downright obscene. In Vijay Anand's love letter to Sheila Ramani, delivered through Johnny Walker, Balraj Sahni is referred to as a 'bondi'. This is typical Punjabi abuse. Do you know what it means? If not, let me tell you but first I must beg forgiveness of my sensitive friends and lady readers. It is an extremely filthy word meaning "one who offers himself for sodomy". Ask any Punjabi, he will confirm it. (My apologies again!) In order that the meaning may not be lost on anyone, the word is purposely repeated twice or thrice.

"When a highly educated, much travelled ex-teacher can stoop to such filth, there is no extent to which other producers, uneducated and unscrupulous knaves as most of them are, will not go. It is a matter of big shame, really!"

CHANDIGARH. **Prithi Paul Singh.**

CONGRESS IMPERIALISM

"It is reported that a sum of rupees forty thousand **only** of public money was spent by the Orissa Government to construct a landing ground near Gopalpur, 8 miles from Berhampur, to receive Congress leaders' planes arriving at the place to attend an AICC session on May 6. The landing ground has, however, been since abandoned because the Central Aviation Department did not find it good. What is all this Mr. Patel?"

BOMBAY. **A. B. Desai.**

ASK YOURSELF?

"In Madras, where a marriage was recently challenged on the ground of idiocy, the court held the marriage valid on the ground that it was a marriage of one congenital idiot to another. To me that is no news. For, I find that from ancient times all marriages have taken place only when there has been either one or two congenital idiots involved in them. From the good old times of Socrates and Xantippe — the former a congenital lazy bones and the latter a congenital termagant—to the better new times of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Husbands, I have

found that the one sound piece of advice to a couple about to marry is: Don't.

"Once upon a time, not long ago, a son asked his father: "Daddy, what is bigamy?" "Bigamy, my son", replied the father in all seriousness, "is committing the same mistake twice". But did this penetrating explanation stop the son from making a congenital idiot of himself? Ask anyone."

KALYAN CAMP. **Mrs. Lalitadevi.**

TAKE UP GOA XWORD

"Though I live in internationalist Nehru's India, I cannot claim to be quite at ease on the high seas of international dog-fights. What is going to happen in Formosa, I mean, over Formosa, I do not know. What the Formosans-cum-Chinese are doing inside China about its fate is not so important as what Americans and out-of-Formosa Chinese are going to do about it. And what are they going to do about it? Even they themselves are not sure. What they will or will not do depends upon what the other fellow will or will not do. But is the other fellow sure about what he will or will not do? I am not sure."

BOMBAY. **Kundan S. Daryani.**

CATTLE DEMOCRACY

"After going through your editorial "Betrayed and Stabbed" in the May 1955 issue of "filmindia" I came to the conclusion that all the Congress members of Parliament are nothing but yes-men of Pandit Nehru—our beloved Prime Minister. Though they are elected by the people on the basis of adult franchise for the good of the people, yet it is to be seen that instead of doing any service for the betterment of the people at large they are being driven just like dumb cattle supporting each and every measure of Pandit Nehru—good or bad—without caring for the interests of the people who elected them."

MAINPURI. **Vir B. S. Chauhan.**

HERALDING RAM RAJYA

"There are certain things in this world which deserve to be destroyed without leaving any trace, and the touring tent cinema is one of them. The blokes, who own them, by hook or by crook, get a licence from the authorities (God only knows who they are!) and set up their shop in small towns. It is invariably a torn tent, with the hardest available chairs, planks in the galleries, and good mother earth for the floor seats.

"As for the projector, it is usually the single rickety one, cutting the picture into bits. The oil engine coughs up a lot of sound throughout. The proprietor makes the patron feel that he must be grateful to him for having arranged this show for the benefit of the people. I don't think that such things are possible in any other country except India. I wonder why our Government do not encourage streamlined theatres to be constructed in small towns and send mobile movie vans with latest equipment to small villages? I am sick of these touring tent cinemas and feel that they are a regular racket deserving to be destroyed at the first opportunity."

B.R. PROJECT. **K. Balachandra Naidu.**

Arabs could never make up their minds whether they loved a horse more, a camel more or a woman more. And in this state of uncertainty Arab poets wrote poems of romance about all the three rivals of an Arab's affection. The horse here is definitely bored with the affair between Chitra and Pradeep Kumar in "Hoor-e-Arab", a romance of Arabs.

FORGIVE THEM

"Why are our films low in standard and our masses lower in taste? Our film-makers have come out with an answer which is so naive that it takes away one's breath. At a recent symposium on films veteran director Vijay Bhatt discovered that if producing a film is an art, seeing it is also an art and the filmgoer must know how to appreciate a good film. Good logic, isn't it? We can have no good pictures until and unless we have not only grasped the ABC but mastered the XYZ of the fine art of seeing a good film. Would Vijay Bhatt start a school to teach this art? I would be the first to enrol.

"The performance of Raj Kapoor went one better and the typically Kapoorian argument was literally unanswerable. "Money", said this oracle of celluloid, "is the supreme power in this world. Remove the supremacy of money from this social system and you will get good films".

"One wonders whether the great man was speaking as a film director or as a Communist leader? All the film producers worth their salt, from Cecil B. deMille to Acharya Atre have produced good pictures without much money and better pictures with more money. To them money was a means to an end—not a god presiding over Raj Kapoor's Box-Office."

BOMBAY. **Hariram G. Jugat.**

SOUTH INDIAN PRODUCERS

"In Madras the dialogue in most of the regional pictures is written in a peculiar manner. The dialogue writer introduces as much alliteration as possible with rhymes in the dialogue. He often belongs to some political party and therefore he introduces his own political views and his filthy ideas in the dialogue.

"The monotonous use of the same alliteration again and again in all pictures becomes boring. When the artistes make a herculean effort to speak the long monotonous dialogue, their actions fail and thus they fail to impress the picturegoers.

"Moreover the dialogue is written designedly to attack either the government or the political leaders in opposition. The people belonging to the party thus attacked produce pictures in which they counter-attack them with the pungent rhetoric and elaborate scorn of which they are masters.

"Thus the South Indian film industry has become a dirty political weapon for airing stupid and lop-sided political propaganda and filthy personal insinuations and attacks. Such a stupid thing would not happen if the producers only realised that the people go to pictures only for entertainment and not to listen to the dull, stupid and boring dialogue framing filth and political propaganda."

PALAYAMKOTTAI, **R. Balasubramaniam.**

Arabs never have silly and weepy faces but then this one is from the desert of Punjab. Om Prakash seems to have seen a camel and missed Chitra standing by his side in "Hoore-Arab", an Arab course in romance.

FOLLOW IT

"Many of the words that you write in "filmindia" are quoted by men of eminence and some are remembered for ever. To give an example of the latter, I can refer to your answer to the question 'Ideal way of living?' put by a gentleman of the South, appearing in the May 1955 issue of "filmindia". It runs as follows:

> "Look down for knowledge, look straight for the way and look up for inspiration."

"Apart from the truth contained in these significant words, what makes them attractive is the diction, the form, the style. The expression is terse, concise and forceful and hence elegant.

"These words remind one of several epigrams one has read so far and I am inclined to consider them as constituting a saying as good as any saying of any great man.

"Especially, the first part of the saying, namely 'Look down for knowledge' is thought-provoking. Look down! Into what? Presumably into books, good books, for a good book widens the vision of man and makes him aware of the significance of life with all its complications. Here I remember a South Indian poet, who sings the glory of books, describing them as the immortal torch of enlightenment. Every student of English literature knows well the oft-quoted words of Milton: 'A good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit.' "

POONA. **K. Ponnusamy.**

HOLLYWOOD IN INDIA

" 'Children are our future!' So many times have we heard this oft-repeated beautiful sentence emanating from the lovely lips of our wonderful Prime Minister, let alone so many other white caps, educationists and so-called 'social reformers'.

"One wonders whether our future is involved with the very children whom we see standing continuously for three hours in the cinema queue of a third-rate, sexy, crime picture—whom we see smoking stylishly in the front rows of picture houses, in streets, in pan-bidi shops everywhere—whom we see posing like lovers on the streets, singing filthy and vulgar songs and dialogue!

"Is this, Mr. Patel, going to be our future? Is this the raw material for a bright, happy and prosperous free India? Can't the tall-talkers do something about this new generation created by Hollywood pictures?"

JULLUNDUR. **Ram L. Nakra.**

THEY RENDER NOTHING

"Of late, I find that the new welcome feature in "filmindia", "See The World Before You Leave It" is becoming shorter and shorter, leaving us dissatisfied. I, for one, feel that I am actually going round the place and enjoying the whole thing, when at the end of the article, I sadly wake up to find myself sitting in my home, though the mind had travelled so widely and distantly. We want to know more and more about the place. I request you to put in more details to make it still interesting. I would like you to include the details of our embassies, if any, in those places, and the services they render there."

B. R. PROJECT. **K. Balachandra Naidu.**

HUSBANDS ON HIRE

"The progressive Congresswoman Shrimati Subhadra Joshi has recently asserted on the floor of the House that under the existing circumstances the Hindu marriage is little short of prostitution. Obviously the progressive Shrimati Joshi is not satisfied with this status of Hindu marriage and wants to introduce modern-cum-secular reforms so that the "little short" distance between marriage and prostitution may disappear and the two become identical.

"With the distance gone, progressive sisters of this progressive lady will get the liberty they crave—the liberty of the liberties. Then husbands can be changed as easily as saris and about as casually."

BOMBAY. **N. K. Wadhwani.**

THANKLESS TASK

"While appreciating your staunch criticism of those demoralising Hollywood pictures, I may be allowed to point out that by doing so you are coaxing our Censor Board to ban most of the Hollywood pictures which would ultimately result in our missing the opportunity to see some of the best pictures in the world. It is true that most of the present day films coming from Hollywood deal wih crime and sex.

"But one cannot ignore the artistic perfection nor deny the high technical standard of those films. Whatever be the theme those Hollywood pictures have originality. You have succeeded in forcing our Censor Board to ban and "scissor" most of the Hollywood films. Why not try to persuade the Hollywood producers to take up pleasant and harmless themes in future? You alone can do that since "filmindia" is having the largest circulation in foreign countries."

PANOOR. **K. V. Ramachandran.**

SINDHI MIND

"Mr. Mahbubani's remarks in the May issue regarding the two editions were quite surprising, if not shocking. In his attempt to present himself as a rich and educated man he has simply exposed his bigoted parochial outlook and has insulted his financially less fortunate co-readers of "filmindia". His contention that your writings in the cheaper edition did not have the same kick only betrays him, to say the least, as a person nursing a false sense of values.

"And when Mr. Mahbubani says that he threw away the copies of the cheaper edition one is forced to doubt even his sanity. If we start thinking on the lines of his strange logic then all the books and literary works published, say, thirty years ago and backwards are all junk to be thrown

There are some men who come to life only in the presence of a singing or dancing girl. Rest of the time they walk the world with sleepy eyes. Bhagwan is one of them. Bhagwan is not fond of Bharat Natyam or Kathakali. He likes female legs to leave art alone and take more alluring steps. Bhagwan's favourite is the "tamasha" girl. Watch Bhagwan in his element in the presence of Hira Savant in "Oonchi Haveli."

in the gutters. Will you tell me, Mr. Patel, how a regular reader of "filmindia" can labour under such moronic ideas?"
AJMER. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

CONGRESS VIRTUE

"Dr. Keskar might be patting himself on the back for perpetrating on the people his own brand of music and cultural programmes but little does he know that nobody takes him seriously, not even the governments of his party.

"The Ajmer Municipality runs a public library to which a radio set is also attached. Except the Hindi news broadcasts from All India Radio, all the time Radio Ceylon holds the field making the people blissfully ignorant of the stuff "aired" from our stations. Perhaps the person-in-charge there respects popular taste more than our doctor-minister. And this Municipality is working directly under a Government Administrator for the last three years. What is this inconsistency, Mr. Patel?"
AJMER. **P. D. Gupta.**

DHEBAR'S NONSENSE

"Mr. U. N. Dhebar, the Congress President, is reported to have said at Malda on April 3, 1955, that students would get "first class marks if examined in cinema". It is no doubt true that some students (not the whole student community) like to fashion themselves after the manner of cinema stars. But for this students themselves are not to blame. If we go through the daily press, we shall be painfully aware of the fact that some sections of society are at the root of this evil.

"The films are no more a medium of entertainment. Even the students these days are disgusted with the manner the cinema stars are thrust upon them in public shows, cricket tamashas and charity functions. But who can blame those who seek the help of stars of the glamorous world in aid of some charities? The glamour girls and boys are no doubt favourites of young men, particularly the student community. But when they are brought up before the public under some excuse, it is simply to cash on their glamour and cheap popularity which exerts a strong influence on the young mind. And, it is in this context, quite impossible for a young man to free himself from this dangerous influence or to be aware of such influence. Not only this, students, it is well-known, love sports. Some people knowing this, organise cricket tamashas just to lure the young folks and by doing so they certainly do a great harm to the cause of sports. It will be a pious platitude for the Congress President, if he merely critcises the students and remains silent over the root cause of this evil."
AGRA. **Dulal Das.**

MORE GRIST

"Here comes a news from Vienna reported on May 19 which is of transcending importance to us all. It says, "Young children are actively opposing the increasing tendency in Russia to treat them as 'working units' in the state's agricultural campaign, according to reports from behind the Iron Curtain. At some collective farms, girls have staged demonstrations against being forced to do heavy labour, which should be done by men, when they should be at school. Such incidents are rarely reported in the Russian press.

"The extent to which farm work is done by school children is indicated by the figures recently published in the official Soviet "Teachers Gazette". This recorded that during one month's harvesting last year, school children of one settlement in the Kirov Province harvested flax on an area of over 180 hectares, stacked ricks on 150 hectares and "earned more than 12,000 labour days to their credit". The same paper stated in another issue that one Siberian school-boy had 270 labour days to his credit—equivalent to the average for a grown man."

"Does not the situation arising out of such child labour, a gift of Communism, show which way the wind is blowing?"
ARRAH. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

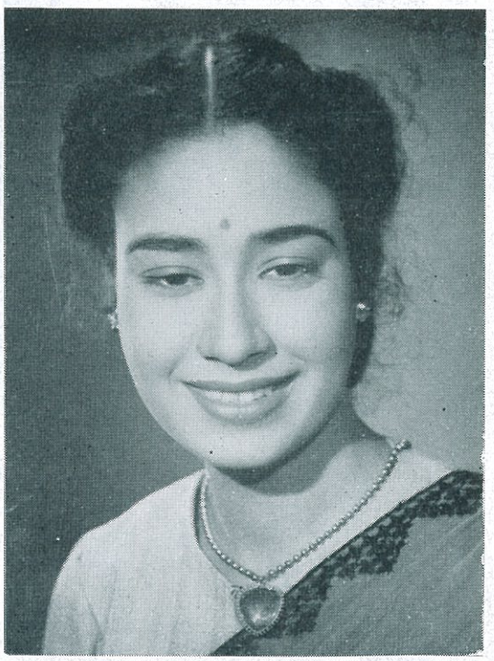
LET US HOPE

"The election of Mr. S. K. Patil as the President of the IMPPA will be widely acclaimed. Mr. Patil has the advantage of enjoying the confidence both of the industry and the ruling party. In his capacity as the Chairman of the Film Enquiry Committee, Mr. Patil has given ample proof of his sympathetic understanding and appreciation of the problems of our film industry.

"Censorship has been the main bone of contention between the producers and the Government, and Mr. Patil will be doing a service of everlasting good if he solves this riddle to the satisfaction of both the parties.

"Films have come to stay—whether for good or for bad—and the aim of all concerned now should be to harness them for the benefit of the nation. One fact must be recognized—that people pay for seeing a film primarily for entertainment and relaxation and not for hearing sermons; the crux of the problem, therefore, comes to this: how that entertainment should be completely harmless, if not purposeful.

"Another factor which should not be lost sight of is that moral values have undergone rapid and radical changes: what would have shocked people, for example, a quarter of century before has now come to be recognized as normal. In the context of this fact, it should not be difficult to find out a code which would not prove harmful to the morals of the nation and at the same time not be harsh on the producers."
BOMBAY. **M. S. Lulla.**



Some women are born kind and cultured. Their face is their best birth certificate. Chand Usmani is one of them and she proves it in "Amanat", a social melodrama.

POISONING MINDS

"The 'Reverend' Billy Graham. the American Super-Salesman of Christianity threatens to come to India in the year 1956. So one who was confident of going to a heathen hell may now be forced into a Christian heaven. He will be saved, whether he wants it or not. The Right Reverend Billy is to see that the American aid to this country will be supplemented also on the spiritual plane.

"Before turning his eyes towards India, Billy has already assaulted England. An efficiently packed tin of Salvation "Made in America" was delivered to the mother country. And how did the mother country relish it? The answer lies in famous British author J. B. Priestley's comments in the "New Statesman and Nation":

" 'Whatever our contemporary age has, America has the most of. It is the jacket country. If we are safely bound for an earthly paradise, the Americans will be there first. If we are all going to Hell, they will also be there first. Now, with the arrival of the streamline Billy Graham organisation.....Salvation has come, as it should, from America. Heaven is being promised again by a figure who might easily have a five-year contract with M.G.M.' "

BOMBAY. **N. K. Wadhwani.**

COIMBATORE WIZARD

"Apropos your review of "Azaad" it was quite heartening to note that a picture with much action, speed and drama has been produced in such a short time. It is really an achievement for which Mr. Naidu deserves all the commendations and encomiums. His accomplishment becomes all the more gratifying when we know that our producers take years on end to make a picture, draining money like water in the process, and then presenting just a trash not worth even a complimentary pass. It is hoped that more and more producers will follow Mr. Naidu and give clean, healthy and entertaining pictures to the nation."

AJMER. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

WHO'S DOING IT?

"I congratulate Shri Ramanuja Sarman for his very illuminating article on "Spiritual Revival Alone Will Build New India" ("filmindia" April 1955). In a graphic portrayal, the significance of Hinduism as the very substratum of our national regeneration has been vividly brought out.

"The potential value of our spiritual heritage with its powerful hold on the masses and the latter's deeply religious attitude are well-known for ages. If that spiritual heritage is revived and its essentialities rigidly followed, there is no doubt that our country's progress would be rapid and her contribution to international peace would also be highly valued. Needless to emphasize that this heritage has been cherished for generations by such eminent architects as Ramkrishna, Vivekananda, Tilak and a host of others.

India's spiritual literature has traversed the ends of the earth. In these dreadful days of hydrogen and atom bombs, when humanity is fast drifting towards a crisis, the infallible panacea for emancipation of mankind lies only in spiritual revival. Humanity should at any rate be awakened to a sense of spiritual consciousness and there should inevitably be a thorough reorientation of our policy of keeping up the noble traditions of Philosophy and Religion.

"The author has done well in candidly pointing out that any movement, whether economic, social or political, could not elicit enough public support unless it has a sense of spirituality behind it, and the veracity of this statement is immeasurably evident in the mighty success of the Bhoodan movement.

It has been rightly stressed that the cult of Hinduism should be made the cynosure of public life and adjusted in such a way that irrespective of creed and denomination, all sections of society are brought together in the scale of spiritual evolution. The suggestion for the compilation of the essentials of Hinduism is commendable. But it is up to the eminent Hindu religious personalities to take upon themselves the onus of bringing out a compilation after mature consideration of the proposal and its consequential benefits to humanity. It is, however, time for us to shed our caste complex and move forward as a great nation of single political entity."

POONA, **K. Subramanian.**

ONE MORE GARLAND

"Our Congress President Shri Dhebar visited Amravati this week. The President of the Vidarbha Congress Committee was absolutely right in declining to allot time to the local Gujerati Samaj to accord a reception to Shri Dhebar during his visit. By attending a communal gathering, a Congressman indirectly but proudly proclaims himself as belonging to a particular community and such gesture is against all high Congress ideals. The Ministers and high Congress officials who heartily respond to such receptions given them by their communities or language-groups will do well to remember that by such acts of theirs they not only set a bad precedent and directly contribute to communal disharmony but also lower the prestige of their great though now decaying organization.

"I was shocked to find in this context that the Congress President had actually attended a reception given by the Gujerati community at Nagpur, and that with this glorious precedent in view, the Amravati Gujeratis wondered why they should be discriminated against!"

AMRAVATI. **Sukumar Shidore.**

LISTEN, KESKAR

"All patriotic and right thinking people will agree that all bad things should be banned or suppressed for the good of

When a woman becomes a-man old, she often acquires the charm of two women. Experience adds another woman to her personality and makes her more intriguing than before. Nalini Jaywant proves this theme in "Fifty-Fifty", the eternal triangle of love.

society. So no wonder Prime Minister Nehru repeated at the Film Seminar what you have been saying for a long time.

"Amongst those who govern us today there are but very few who can take a decision in any matter whatsoever unless they have a positive assurance that Uncle Nehru would like the move they intend to make. This not only burdens our already over-worked Prime Minister all the more but also renders rapid progress impossible. Thus with Pandit Nehru being too busy to look into each and every matter our government has become inflicted with stagnancy.

"Under these conditions Pandit Nehru's statement about crime and horror stories, reproduced in the May "filmindia" is most welcome. Quite a lot of foreign poison escapes our censors who, judging from their work, seem to be a bunch of confused people with faddish tendencies. If Keskar puts a stop to this with the same frantic zeal with which he has boycotted film music from the A.I.R. he shall give us sufficient ground to think that his madness in the latter matter has some method. Otherwise different degrees of strictness in censoring Indian and foreign pictures and the dictatorial ban on film music are things so inconsistent that one cannot take them as the work of some logical brain.

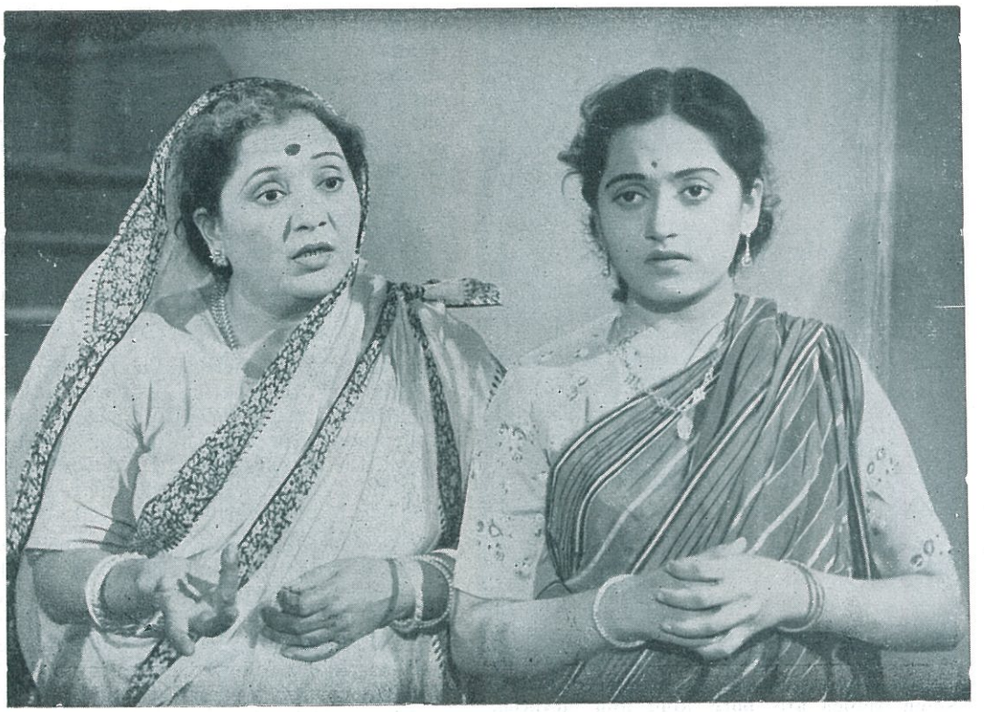
"In case Keskar is prejudiced against what you say, he should seriously think over what the Prime Minister has said when he is a little bit free from being garlanded by his Sanman Samitis (formed by people who evidently must have their fun one way or the other)."

DELHI. **Shiv K. Parti.**

KHADDAR DEMOCRACY

"Recently a couple was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment in Nadia District of West Bengal for the crime of kissing in public. With all due respect for the judiciary and the executive, one may say that the punishment was quite harsh and indiscreet. It is agreed that to indulge in osculatory exercises in the open is against Indian morals and traditions and should be condemned everywhere. But the pair involved having done the mischief on the spur of the moment, could have been let off with a warning or a fine. And this sentence looks all the more harsh and vindictive when we know that kisses are exchanged daily at railway stations and airports all over India, including those between famous politicians at Palam, sometimes between the persons whose relationship is even doubtful, but so far nobody has been prosecuted. Are these not public places? Are the people there immune from law? Do you still think we are living in a democracy, Mr. Patel?"

AJMER. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**



The old one, who still has the permit, with, of course, the units badly cut down, always wonders why young ones should be so crazy over their husbands. The young one can't explain nor can she remind the old one of her early days. In Hindu life sex is a secret which all know and yet no one has ever heard of it. Watch this game of "You-don't-know-what-I-do and I-know-what-you-don't" between Gulab, the oldster, and Chandrakala, the youngster, in "Teen Bhai", a domestic drama.

INNOCENT ABROAD

"Answering a question on the alarming increase in the circulation of obscene comics in India, Minister B. N. Datar recently stated on the floor of the House that it was very difficult for Government to collect any information about the names of countries from which comics were imported. Has Shri Datar hung about New Delhi cinemas? Apparently not! For, if he had, the comics in the hands of Westernised teenagers swarming to "sexciting" American films, would have easily provided him the information.

"If Shri Datar requires more authoritative information on the subject I would refer him to an eye-opening book titled "Seduction of the Innocent" by a leading American psychiatrist, Dr. Frederic Wertham. That could convince the Hon'ble Minister that obscene comics do not descend from a flying saucer, nor from a number of countries but from one country alone. That is a country where girls are called "babes", their breasts are termed "head-lights" and their torsos are known as "cheesecake"!"

BOMBAY. **N. K. Wadhwani.**

THEY'LL NEVER SEE

"We can be doubly sure of the fact that a little success achieved by the white-capped tribe of the Indian variety easily gives them a swollen head and a wrong perspective. So on the eve of their Pyrrhic victory in Andhra, you have done well in sounding a note of caution through your April issue lest they might be lulled into a false sense of security. It must be conceded by all the patriots of the country that the keepers of the conscience of this ancient nation would refuse to see the "writing on the wall" only at their own peril. If we are not to play in the hands of the ruthless Communists whose ideology is a categorical negation of all that we stand for, we cannot afford to show smug complacency in dealing with the Communist Party of India.

"I am inclined to think that your leading articles in March and April issues show an increasing awareness of the fact that if we have to contend with a factious enemy that is embodied in the Communist Party of India, let us not dally about it but take the bull by the horns. In fact, the Communist parties the world over are in the habit of currying favour with their Big Boss in Moscow or Peking. But this is not a Baburao thesis; even Nehru has admitted that the Communist Party of India has no roots in the soil of the country. Thus the banning of the Communist Party of India does not militate against the canons of democracy, rather such a course of action will be fully conducive to the safeguarding of the nascent democracy that obtains in this land which is still having labour pains in the process of ushering in an era of full-fledged democracy in this part of the globe.

Arab love is a very passionate sport. One who doesn't get the girl always wants to dispatch his rival to heaven. The girl, of course, enjoys the show as Chitra is doing in "Hoore-Arab", a thrilling tale of Arabs in love.

"In this connection the following can be studied to our great advantage. That the Communist Party functions not as a political party but as a political broker can be easily gathered from what the British Trade Union Congress records in the following words: "The Communist Party is not a political party in the normal sense. It must never get out of step with the other Communist parties of the world. If it does, it gets in trouble with its masters in Moscow."

"However, we can safely rely on our masters to behave after the fashion of Peter Pan, unable to learn anything, come what may."

ARRAH. **Prem Chandra Sinha.**

THEY WANT WOMEN

"One thing I don't understand at all and that is men. If you smile at a man, he thinks you are flirting; if you don't flirt, he thinks you are an iceberg; if you flatter him, he thinks you are simple; if you don't, he thinks you don't understand him; if you go out with other fellows, he thinks you are fickle; if you don't, he thinks no one else will have you. Men, God bless them, don't know what they want?"

BOMBAY. **Miss Rohini Pitale.**

CONGRESS LTD.

"At present there is a keen competition between Congress President Dhebar and Congress President-maker Nehru in praising the phenomenal progress of the country i.e. of the Congress regime. In Bombay Dhebar has declared that no country in the whole world has at any time been able to equal the progress achieved by the Congress within the last seven years, while in Delhi Pandit Nehru has stated that the whole world is just dumbfounded at this progress of India, that is, Congress.

"I am glad that India is progressing. Messrs. Nehru and Dhebar say so and therefore it must be true. But as a penpusher I am a stickler for statistics and the statistics of prosperity in the country have not left me very warm. In one of the speeches in Bombay Shri Dhebar said, "In a village near a town I recently visited the villagers are so starved that they raided ant-hills for grains". And in the next speech the same Shri Dhebar praised the abounding prosperity of the country! Perhaps according to Shri Dhebar the main sign of human prosperity is raiding the ant-hill for a handful of grain.

"On the other hand in Delhi, where Nehru made his declaration of prosperity, 63 per cent men and 73 per cent women of those who have registered with the Delhi Employment Exchange are still on the streets. As to how many unregistered unemployed there are in Delhi alone (leave the question of the rest of India) the Government of India itself does not know. Still Messrs. Dhebar and Nehru say we are prosperous and Messrs. Dhebar and Nehru are honourable men, they are all, all honourable men, for they are all, all Congressmen.....!"

BOMBAY. **Alaka Desai.**

NEVER TOO LATE

"Congratulations, Mr. Baburao. Yet another success for you! Readers of "filmindia" know how you fought for the abolition of the front row seats in picture-houses where films are projected on panoramic wide screens. The Government of Bombay in the first instance prohibited children below eighteen to occupy seats in the auditorium up to a distance equivalent to three-fourths of the width of the screen during the showing of Cinemascope and wide-screen pictures. And now comes the welcome news that it is proposed to extend the prohibitory order to the adults also. Let us hope that the other State governments will follow suit."

MADRAS. **Miss S. Lakshmi.**

BUTCHER'S BLUFF

"The business of butchers is to butcher, at least that is what I always thought. What, however, I did not know was that it is also the business of butchers to hold a press conference and explain how cow-slaughter is essential for the well-being of the country in general and of the butchers in particular. Disclosing "vital" statistics on this subject a butchers' representative recently told attentive pressmen that 13 crore Indians, that is Bharatiyas, eat dead cows, and 2 crore living Indians, that is Bharatiyas, would be dead if there were no dead cows.

"I am amazed at my own ignorance. As a particularly keen observer of things, I ought to have known these figures which even a butcher knows. But who informed the butchers about these figures? It is not known. As far as I know there is no trade union of butchers. The Census Report of the Government of India does not state the total number of butchers in the country. The Government does not even state the number of cow-eaters. In fact the Government does not know how much produce the Indian farms yield, let alone the number of cows the Indian farmer keeps —rather, cannot keep and, therefore, sells to the butchers. The publicity-minded butcher leader is, therefore, to be congratulated that he could arrive at his impressive figures in spite of colossal Governmental ignorance on the subject!"

BOMBAY. **Kundan S. Daryani.**

GOING FOR HAJ

"Hardly had we recovered from the shock of Major-General Yunus Khan's migration to Pakistan with a portion of his pension amounting to nearly a lakh of rupees and accepting a job there, when we are faced with the news of migration of yet another high-ranked Muslim employee after his retirement from service. This time it is Dr. I. R. Khan, former Director of Education, U.P., who recently managed to slip to Pakistan.

"Dr. Khan, it is believed, was held in the highest esteem of our present Chief Minister Dr. Sampurnanand, the then Education Minister, who had an almost blind faith in his wisdom and loyalty and was

instrumental to give him a grand farewell party on his retirement.

"It thus becomes amply clear that such of the Muslims though bodily serve in India, their hearts are in Pakistan and they flee to their 'Jannat', whenever they get an opportunity.

"This might displease some of the Muslims in India, but we are very much pained to see the migration of such Muslims to Pakistan, which ultimately shakes our faith in others as well.

"I wonder if our Government took a serious view of such incidents and changed their outlook in this respect at least now!"

KANPUR. **T. C. Bhatia.**

THUNDERING NEHRU

"I am fully at one with you that the Communists of India are the greatest danger and menace to our democracy, our Constitution, and our people. You have raised your voice against it and surely your voice will not fall on deaf ears.

"No doubt Communism is against the grain of our Constitution. It is incumbent on the ruling party to put an end to the harmful and terrific activities of the Communists. If they do not perform this, all their efforts, plans and schemes for the success of democracy in our soil will bear no fruits. Will they erect the edifice of a new India on shifting sands? Because while they are leaving no stone unturned to erect that edifice, its foundations are constantly being undermined by the Communists of our soil.

"During his election tour in Andhra in January this year, our Prime Minister said in a speech in Rajahmundry: "In India there are many types of reactionaries and the biggest of all are the Communists of India." And these "biggest reactionaries" are left free to allure our illiterate masses into the lascivious tentacles of Communism and thus sap the foundations of our democracy. Such things have, perhaps, no gravity or importance in the eyes of Mr. Nehru, for he says in the same speech: "Let us forget the Communists and wipe out from our minds their activities. We have big and tremendous task before us—the task of building up India....." This is not a realistic attitude. Mere condemnation of the Communists cannot and will not check the spread of Communism. To save our democracy and our independence, Communism and the Communists must be suppressed to extinction. If Mr. Nehru ignores this hard and naked truth, if he continues to be in your words "all thunder and no rain" he himself is laying the axe at the root of our democracy and our hard-won freedom and independence."

VANIYAMBADI. **Md. Ismail.**

Her face in print is the ambition of every woman. Her own mirror is not enough. The printed face opens the eyes of other women and makes the face owner happy. See how Vyjayantimala is stretching herself to get the paper singing her glory in "Sitara", a tale of song and dance.

Thinking is a terrible strain to a female in love. It hits the heart and breaks it into pieces. Now who would think that Shyama, of all girls, had a problem to solve in "Haseena"?

GIFT HORSES

"When a woman cannot answer a question, she dissolves it in tears; when a man cannot answer it, he shouts it off; when a Congressman cannot answer a question, he invokes Gandhiji; and when a Minister cannot answer it, he says "I want notice". This notice business is the last resort of a Congress Minister.

"When it was recently disclosed that the Government (i.e. Education Minister Maulana Azad) has appointed two foreign experts to advise on the preparation of Hindi text books, an M.P. asked, "What sort of advice are foreign experts expected to give on Hindi books?" The answer was "notice wanted".

"In one way the minister concerned was justified in asking for notice. For the M.P.'s question is beside the point. Somebody has defined an expert as one who complicates simple things. With a slight change I would define a foreign expert in India as one who earns a tax-free salary bigger than our President's, just to enable the ministers and officials to impress the layman. The M.P. ought to have known that the experts in the present case are not expected to know Hindi. Why should they, when the Education Minister who has engaged them himself does not know it?"

BOMBAY. **N. K. Wadhwani.**

PICTURES IN MAKING

Music makes life more romantic. It takes the mind flying into celestial regions where romance becomes a religion and sex its only ritual. One such situation is shared by Bharat Bhushan and Nimmi in "Basant Bahar", a celluloid song of love.

Gemini's "Insaniyat" Shaping As A World-Beater—Naidu's "Azaad" Set For Several Silver Jubilees—Dilip Kumar's Wonderful Performance In "Devdas"—Mehboob's "Mother India" Becoming Colourful Classic—Amarnath's "Bara-Dari" Acquires New Heroine.

GEMINI STUDIOS (Madras)

Producer-director S. S. Vasan has completed many sequences of "Insaniyat" in keeping with his rigid schedule of work. Those who have seen the rushes are most enthusiastic in their praise and it looks as if "Insaniyat" will end by becoming a world-beater. "Insaniyat" has the most impressive star cast ever assembled in a single picture. India's top stars—Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand and Bina Rai—constitute an interesting triangle in "Insaniyat" giving the picture some warm, romantic and touching moments. Jayant, Vijaylaxmi, Shobhana Samarth, Kumar and Agha play other important roles. To enhance the comedy element in "Insaniyat", Mr. Vasan is featuring a trained chimpanzee, Zippy, which was flown from Hollywood with its trainer. The chimpanzee is Agha's constant companion in the picture and the tricks they are up to, are enough to make you roar with laughter. Music by C. Ramchandra is catchy and well rendered by Lata Mangeshkar, Talat Mahmood. etc. "Insaniyat" is scheduled for release in September, so filmgoers don't have to wait too long to see it.

PAKSHIRAJA STUDIOS (Coimbatore)

When a picture clicks at the box-office and the public acclaims it, the producer's luck is literally written in letters of gold. Producer-director S. M. S. Naidu's "Azaad" is one such picture that not only entertains the public whole-heartedly but also brings Naidu plenty of money. "Azaad" is running wild all over the country and looking at the box-office figures, we feel that the picture is set for several simultaneous silver jubilees. At Bombay it is running at three cinemas and doing extremely well. "Azaad" is the talk of the town because it was produced in record time in spite of many big Bombay stars like Dilip Kumar and Meena Kumari starring in it. Naidu has big, ambitious plans for the future. One is a social starring Dilip Kumar and Vyjayantimala.

BIMAL ROY PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

There was plenty of excitement on the sets of Producer-director Bimal Roy's "Devdas" with the arrival of Suchitra Sen, Bengal's famous star, in Bombay. Known for her beauty and talent, Bimal Roy selected Suchitra Sen to play the classic role of Parvati opposite Dilip Kumar. Bimal Roy shot some scenes between Paro and Devdas during the month and the rushes point to a great picture. Dilip Kumar is in his element as the tragic Devdas and is reported to have given a wonderful performance in "Devdas". Vyjayantimala, another charmer, portrays Chandramukhi with great feeling. Some of S. D. Burman's soulful melodies are likely to become popular. "Amanat" starring Bharat Bhushan, Chand Usmani and Asha Mathur and directed by Arabind Sen is ready for the screen.

MEHBOOB PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Mehboob is working steadily on "Mother India" starring charming Nargis in her first Gevacolor role. Beginning life as an innocent village girl who is married early, to a mature woman of two grown-up sons, Nargis portrays a wide range of emotions in her inimitable manner and under Mehboob's excellent direction, lives her role. Sajjad, a three-year-old tot, who plays the young child of Nargis in "Mother India" is a new Mehboob find and his work enlivens quite a few sequences in the picture. Raj Kumar plays the husband of Nargis. "Awaaz" directed by Zia Sarhady is in the editing room. The cast consists of Nalini Jaywant, Usha Kiran, Zul Velani and Chandrashekhar. Director Mehrish has made good progress with Production No. 7 starring Shakila and Kishore Kumar.

K. AMARNATH PRODUCTIONS LTD. (Bombay)

Producer-director K. Amarnath has begun the shooting of "Bara-Dari" at the Ranjit Studios. "Bara-Dari" stars Ajit in a fighting role opposite talented Geeta Bali. The rest of the cast consists of Pran, Chandrashekhar, Achla, Murad, Gope, Ramesh Thakur and Kesari. Many of the distribution rights of "Bara-Dari" have been sold. The distributors evidently smell a "box-office" picture. Nashad has composed some catchy tunes for "Bara-Dari".

AVM PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

Producer A. V. Meiyappan's "Shiv Bhakta" is running well at the Majestic, Bombay and several other towns of India. A mythological produced on a lavish scale, "Shiv Bhakta" stars Padmini, Shahu Modak, Pandari Bai, Anant Kumar, Sope and Misra, and has plenty of appeal for the devotional - minded. Padmini's attractive dances in "Shiv Bhakta" have been extremely well photographed and constitute one of the highlights in the picture. At the studios, Producer A. V. Meiyappan is busy with the shooting of "Chori Chori" starring the screen's popular pair, Nargis and Raj Kapoor. Nargis and Raj flew to Madras and worked for a week at the AVM Studios.

SUNNY ART PRODUCTIONS LTD. (Bombay)

Producer-director S. U. Sunny's "Uran Khatola" is attracting crowds at the Imperial, Bombay, where it seems to have settled down for a long run. Starring Dilip Kumar, Nimmi and Surya-Kumari, "Uran Khatola" is a

beautiful fantasy with delightful music that transports the filmgoer to a new world of joys and thrills.

SADIQ PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

"Musafirkhana" produced and directed by M. Sadiq was released in Indore, Delhi and other towns where it is reported to have done good business. It stars Shyama opposite Karan Dewan. Sadiq's next is "Chhoo Mantar", also a hilarious comedy, starring Shyama and Karan Dewan.

SHARAD PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer - director Dhirubhai Desai completed "Oonchi Haveli" starring Nirupa Roy, Karan Dewan and Bhagwan. "Oonchi Haveli" is now being edited and will be soon ready for release. A couple of songs of "Oonchi Haveli" tuned by Shivram have already become popular with radio listeners. The story of "Oonchi Haveli" depicts the thrilling fight of a woman for her rights—a modern trend in free India.

HIMACHAL FILMS (Bombay)

Director Nanubhai Vakil has completed more than half of "Lalkar" starring Nirupa Roy and Mahipal and supported by Krishnakumari, Ramsingh, W. M. Khan, Rajen Haksar and others. "Lalkar" is a costume picture with music by Sanmukh Babu, a new, promising music director. Lyrics have been composed by the well-known Pradeep.

MUSICAL PICTURES LTD. (Bombay)

"Yasmin", produced and directed by A. R. Kardar, was released at the Roxy, Bombay on June 10, 1955, to an appreciative audience. "Yasmin", adapted from that popular story "Son of Sheikh", is an action picture, starring pretty Vyjayantimala opposite Suresh. Fine photography by Divecha and lilting music by C. Ramchandra give life to "Yasmin" and make it a 'must' for the masses. "Yasmin" is distributed by the Screens.

TASVIRISTAN (Bombay)

"Naqab", starring Madhubala and Shammi Kapoor, had a simultaneous release at many cinemas in Bombay, where it is running well. "Naqab" is a Ruritanian romance with action, spectacle, dances and entertains without taxing the brain. The supporting cast consists of Ajit, Asha Mathur, Hiralal, Yashodhara Kathju. Direction is by Lekhraj Bhakri. "Naqab" is being distributed by the Screens.

ALL INDIA PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer P. N. Arora released "Sitara" at the Royal Opera House, Bombay, on May 26, 1955 at a colourful premiere. "Sitara" stars Vyjayantimala, Pradeep Kumar and Shashikala and has been directed by S. K. Ojha. Producer P. N. Arora is now concentrating on "Chitralekha", his ambitious Gevacolor production, in partnership with Vyjayantimala, who also works as its heroine.

FESTIVAL FILMS (Bombay)

Director Keshavrao Dhaibar has completed some scenes of "Chaar Deewaren" starring Nigar Sultana, Vijaylaxmi, Ranjana Shukla, Karan Dewan, Wasti, etc. With three charming belles in a row, you can expect "Chaar Deewaren" to be a complicated domestic theme that creates many intriguing situations. Producer A. Shakoor hopes to release the picture soon.

D. P. PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

"Teen Bhai", directed by Hemchunder and starring Shyama and Bharat Bhushan, is ready for release. Others in the cast are Nirupa Roy, Hiralal, Gulab and Chandrakala, a newcomer. Written by Moni Burman, a popular Bengali writer, "Teen Bhai" is a touching tale of joint family system. Music direction is by Arun Kumar.

ALHAD CHITRA (Bombay)

"Sabse Bada Rupaiya" starring Shashikala, Agha, Sunder, Rajni and Hira Sawant was temporarily held up for three months. Last month, with financier Mr. T. Tarachand taking over charge, shooting was resumed for three weeks and the picture finally completed. Produced by Datta Dharmadhikari and directed by Santoshi, "Sabse Bada Rupaiya" is an interesting theme revolving round the rupee that either mars or makes a person's life. O. P. Nayyar and Nashad share the musical honours.

G. M. PICTURES (Bombay)

Director Santoshi picturized a thrilling sequence of "Garma Garam" with Nadira dressed as a lion-trainer performing a circus turn. The lion nearly pounced on Nadira during the shot and gave everyone on the set a terrific fright. Later Mr. Vasantrao, the trainer of Prof. Deval's circus, took an hour of coaxing and cajoling to calm the angry lion. "Garma Garam" has a circus sequence which forms the highlight of the picture in which are employed 6 lions, 2 lionesses, 4 Royal Bengal tigers, 4 lion cubs and 2 panthers. The cost involved in three days' shooting works out at nearly Rs. 25000 per day. "Garma Garam" stars Nadira, Agha, Gope, Anwar and Indira Bansal.

VIJAYA PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

Producer B. Nagi Reddy has cast Nargis and Dev Anand as the romantic team in the Hindi version of "Missiamma". Titled "Miss Mary" for the Hindi market, the picture has already proved popular with Tamil audiences. Rajendra Krishna is writing the dialogue while music is by C. Ramchandra. Direction is by Prasad.

JUPITER PICTURES (Madras)

"Naya Admi" starring Anjali and N. T. Rama Rao in Hindi is fast nearing completion. Director C. P. Dixit has picturized two beautiful dances in Gevacolor that definitely add to the box-office value of "Naya Admi". "Naya Admi" is going to be a popular picture because it is based on the Tamil hit "Velaikari".

JAMBU PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

"Laaj" starring Vyjayantimala and Karan Dewan was unfortunately put in cold storage since the death of its producer Lakshmanan Chettiar. Now the distributors of "Laaj" have decided to complete the picture. Shooting of "Laaj" was begun at the Revati Studios in June. The half-completed Tamil and Telugu versions of "Laaj", however, will not see the light of day till some other party comes forward to complete them.

SAHU FILMS LTD. (Bombay)

Hard-working Producer-director Kishore Sahu has completed a good bit of "Kismet ka Khel" starring Vyjayantimala, Sunil Dutt and Begum Para and supported by Yashodhara Katju, Mukri, Kamal Jit, Shreenath, Bhudo Advani, Uma Devi and others. A murder mystery drama, "Kismet ka Khel" has been planned for box-office success. Music is by Shanker and Jai Kishen.

SHAH PICTURES (Bombay)

Director Nasim Siddiqui has made steady progress with "Shahi Chor" starring Shakila.

SAIGAL BROTHERS (Bombay)

Director Mohan Segal, known for making purposeful pictures, promises to make "Krorepati" as good if not better than "Aulad" and "Adhikar", his earlier box-office successes. Two sets of "Krorepati" were shot by Mohan Segal during the month. "Krorepati" stars Kishore, Shashikala, Smriti Biswas, Anoop Kumar and K. N. Singh and has been written by I. S. Johar. Produced by Shashikala and her husband Om Prakash Saigal, "Krorepati" looks as if it will become a box-office hit, as a lot of thought has gone into its production.

(*Continued from page* 42)

facilities, from hospital services to housing. Within the past two years, 10 hospitals with 4000 beds have been opened. On industrial housing alone £E700,000 have been spent and on medical centres £E500,000.

The new Egyptian rulers may be considered military dictators because they have strict press censorship and they rely on the army. But their pronouncements and achievements indicate that they are benevolent dictators. They started as revolutionaries against foreign oppression, especially against the British, whom they have driven out from the Suez Zone. Events that happened subsequently made them don the mantle of civil administrators. Now they are ruling a country which they want to make a welfare state. And, having known the bitter taste of Imperialism, they are avoiding the offers and smiles of Uncle Sam. And since they need ample time to consolidate the gains of the Revolution, they do not want to embroil themselves in any war by aligning themselves with any powers. Besides, believers in both Arab League and in secularism as they are, they are interested in maintaining the status quo and not in wild alliances with Turkey and Pakistan, under the common crescent.

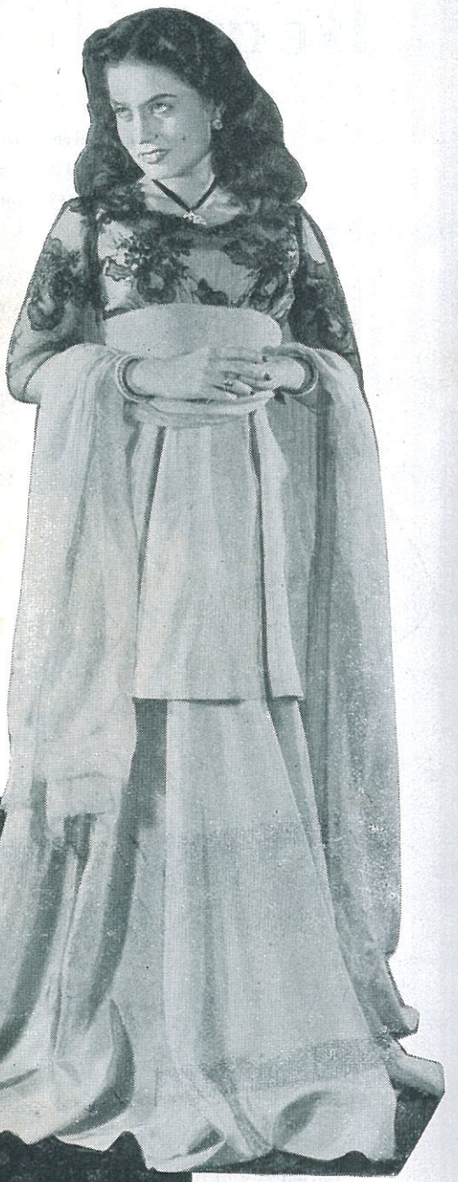
Premier Nasser knows that it was a member of the Moslem Brotherhood who tried to shoot him last year. And he knows also what the Brotherhood did in Iran. That is why he is carefully leading his country through the maze of power politics joining hands with India and not with Pakistan, rejecting American alliance while not refusing their financial aid to a small extent, and creating broad-based support from the masses for himself and the junta. It remains to be seen whether power can corrupt the junta as it has done all through history in all countries, especially Muslim countries.

If it does the Sphinx will again see a red Nile and break its long silence and ask Nehru, "What next little man?"

TWO DATES.

by

VENUS BANNERJEE



● Right : Black lace and sky-blue taffeta make an ideal combination in this design. The upper half of the kamiz is in black lace while the lower half is in sky-blue taffeta. Lace not only gives an artistic touch to your kamiz but also lends it a bold relief from the plain blue background. A sky-blue georgette dopatta goes with the gharara-kamiz suit. A black ribbon with a gold pendant completes milady's matching.

● Below : This gharara-kamiz in pure white is a choice combination made in white spotted taffeta and white georgette. To give the kamiz a delicate, tantalizing touch, the upper half is stitched in fine georgette while the lower half is in taffeta. A white georgette dopatta completes the ensemble. Note the pearl jewellery to enhance the inherent beauty of white.

Beautiful When Wet . . . Uma Sondhi

Raining? So what! It gives you an opportunity to show yourself off in a variety of raincoats.

There are many exciting designs in water-proof material these days for milady's use. This model sports a raincoat in scarlet with large comfortable pockets. The wide belt sets off the tall figure. Get an umbrella made in the same print. A scarf to match keeps the head snug.

This raincoat in plain green is cut on the swagger wrap-around style and reaches right down to the sari length. The inside lining, large three-cornered lapels and cuffs on the sleeves and pockets are all in printed green and white flowers. A colourful matching bandana round the hair keeps the rain out.

The young lady has a nonchalant look, knowing fully well that the rain just cannot reach her. She wears a simple coat with a fitted bodice, collarless neckline, a wide flared skirt and big pockets. The roomy hood ends in a tiny cape over her shoulders and fastens under the chin. The entire raincoat including the fabric covered gum boots is in a lightly printed colourful material.

They say every dog has his day. So has smart Fido. His coat allows for the head and the tail but otherwise wraps cosily round him fastening with a broad belt. A stiff hood attached to the collar protects the head and tiny booties keep the feet dry. . . And so Fido is ready for his constitutional walk.

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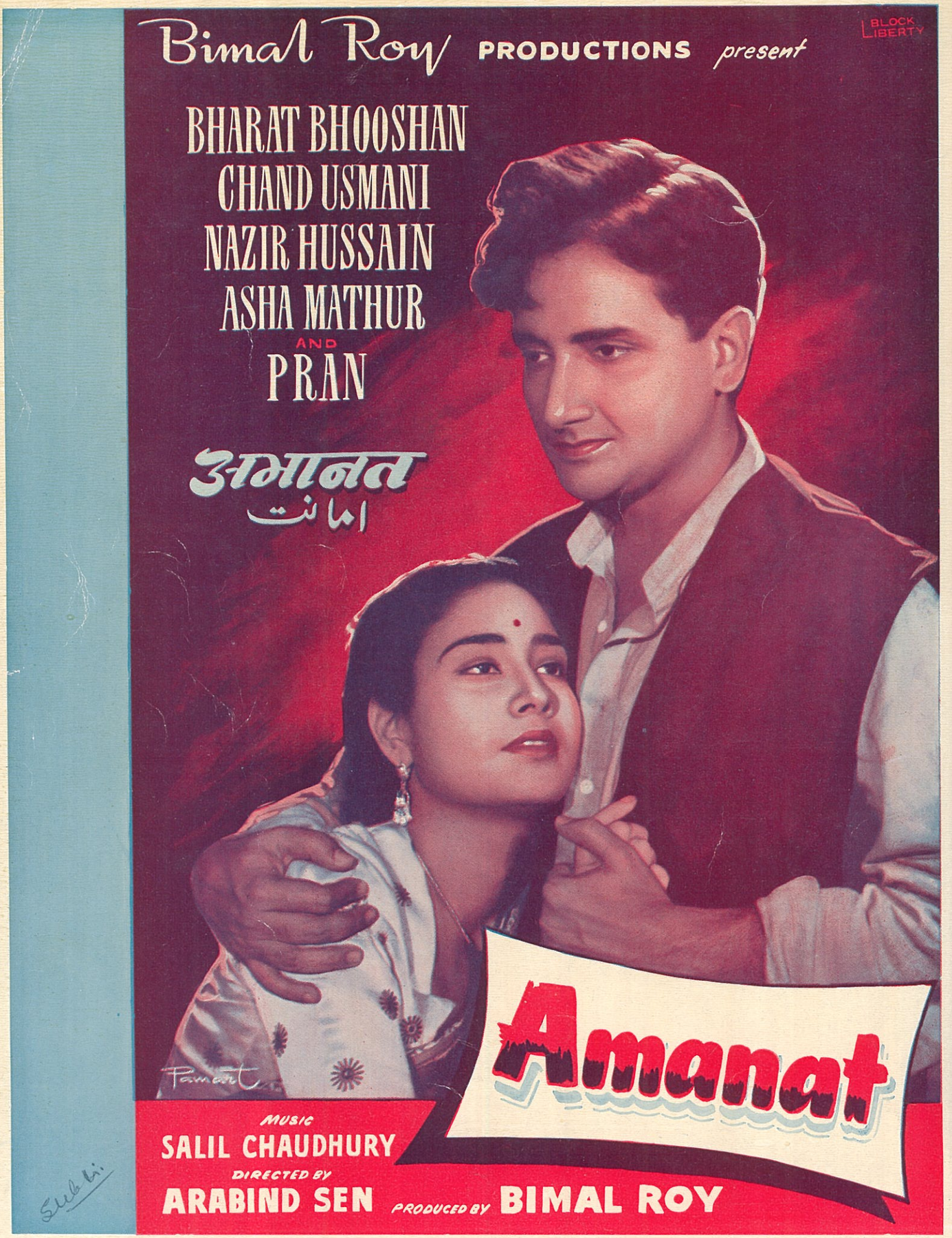

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